

HOME NEWS

Extensive modifications will be needed to US-type reactor before it can be used in Britain

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Extensive changes will have to be made to the controversial American type of pressurized water reactor if it is to be used in Britain.

Although a statement expected in the Commons tomorrow will give permission for the first nuclear power station in Britain, at Sizewell, Norfolk, to be based on that reactor, the US Nuclear Insulation Inspectorate will be in no position to issue a licence for its operation without the modifications.

That is clear from a report to the Government of an investigation that started three years ago.

100-page executive summary of the report will be published at the same time as Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, makes a statement in Parliament of the Government's long-term nuclear power policy.

That will be a commitment to order at least one nuclear power station a year from 1982 for 10 years, at a total cost of £15,000m.

Reports prepared for the Government on the Three Mile Island accident will also be released. But the Review of the Generic Safety Issues of Pressurized Water Reactors, which forms the executive report, will lead to the most searching questioning of Mr Howell and his advisers.

It explains how the safety standards in Britain are more rigorous than those in the United States, and hence the difficulty of the American system.

Nevertheless, the report emphasizes an opinion that there appears to be no intrinsic engineering reason why the safety levels demanded in the United Kingdom cannot be met for the pressurized water reactor.

The recommendations point to the changes needed at the manufacturing stage, of the design of extra protection in operating a power station, and of better procedures for fault analysis of operations (like the control of fuel rods) which are expected to be needed relatively frequently.

There are also questions connected with corrosion of fuel elements and other components that can be answered to satisfy safety requirements in Britain only after research, because present knowledge is inadequate.

Attention is also drawn to the higher levels of radiation to which workers at nuclear stations using pressurized water reactors are exposed. Alterations in design and construction would not eliminate that entirely, but the gap between present British practice and that in the United States would be narrowed.

The difficulty of finding a site remote from centres of population is also examined briefly in the executive summary. The density of population in the United Kingdom is much higher than in the United States.

The consequent disadvantages that arise in trying to adapt the reactor to meet the conditions for the places most favoured for nuclear power stations by the electricity generating boards in the United Kingdom raise fundamental issues of safety and security.

The full nature of those questions is not covered in the executive summary on safety, but is the subject of the far weightier report on which it is based. A demand for that document to be made available is inevitable when the gap shown by the shorter version becomes known.

There is already a questioning mood about secrecy in nuclear reactor safety studies.

An early day motion being put down today calls on the Government "for the immediate release of any abridged summary, but of the full secret, unabridged safety reports on the pressurized water reactor carried out by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, the Nuclear Power Company and the electricity generating boards".

Unions seek pledge on Prior Bill from Labour

By Our Labour Editor

Trade union leaders will today seek a firm commitment from Labour politicians that they will repeal the Government's proposed legislation on the closed shop and secondary picketing when they are returned to office.

Arguments for the repeal of Mr James Prior's Employment Bill will be put to a meeting of the TUC Labour Party Liaison Committee at Congress House when the scope for opposing the Conservatives' strategy is discussed.

Mr David Bassett, chairman of the TUC economic committee, said yesterday: "We need to coordinate our reactions to the Government's proposals inside and outside Parliament immediately. We also quickly need to make it clear what a future Labour government will do if such legislation is introduced."

"All the indications are that the current Bill is the beginning of a series of legislative shackles we are going to get through the period of this government."

The scope of the original Employment Bill published 10 days ago is likely to be expanded after the Law Lords' decision last week in the case of *Express Newspapers v. MacShane*, which held that "secondary blacking" in furtherance of an industrial dispute was lawful under legislation brought in by the last Labour government in 1974.

The TUC has rejected the Bill as it stands as "irrelevant and grossly unfair" and any move to restrict further the legal immunities enjoyed by trade unionists is certain to face increased opposition.

It is a sign of the background of growing hostility between union leaders and the Government that the Labour Party hierarchy has to decide whether to give the blanket commitment to repeal the Bill, or to leave the repeal of the Conservative law reform package, parts of which are thought to appeal to some members of the shadow cabinet.

Call for debate on death of boy who feared cane

From Our Correspondent Nottingham

Teachers opposed to corporal punishment in schools yesterday sent a telegram to the Prime Minister calling for an emergency Commons debate on the case of a boy who was "driven to suicide by fear of the cane".

Mr Tom Scott, education secretary of STOPP, the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment, said: "This is the worst case we have come across in 11 years. It is the first time we have actually heard of anyone who has killed himself apparently as a direct result of the cane."

The boy who died was Raymond Parker, aged 14, an only child, of Robin Hood Avenue, in Nottingham. He shot himself through the head with a 22 gun last week after being told he would have to face his headmaster the next morning for playing truant for a week.

The headmaster at the boy's school, Maden Comprehensive School, Warsop, Mr Barry Ellis, said: "My conscience is clear. We do cane boys for playing truant. I do not think we should find it difficult to find boys who would be penalized as well as those who can be accused of being 'work-shy'."

The Government is considering dropping any links between unemployment benefit and rising inflation in the past have generally driven to eradicating the so-called "why work syndrome".

It is one of many proposals being examined by Treasury ministers and other departments in connection with the public expenditure review. It is finally approved the measure would almost certainly cause a storm with trade union leaders.

They would be able to point out that those who frequently find it difficult to find jobs would be penalized as well as those who can be accused of being "work-shy".

Crisis in the steel towns 1—Port Talbot: Welsh front line for jobs cuts

Split over strike as bubble burst nears

From Tim Jones

When night falls the giant steelworks resembles an angry dragon breathing fire and smoke into the air. And when the clouds are low a sulphur smell invades the whole town, assuring people that the mighty furnaces are blasting away.

This is Port Talbot, the boom town of south Wales, where high wages are spent in a dozen luxurious clubs built for a future safe with steel.

Now the bubble is about to burst as the town finds itself in the front line of the British Steel Corporation's plan to cut up to 15,000 jobs in Wales, a measure which some politicians forecast will lead to 50,000 redundancies in the principality.

At the Mount View social club retired steelworkers sit among the Christmas decorations, waiting for the final closure and eventual flattening of the works, could lose it £5m a year in rates.

Mr Terry Thomas, the development officer, said: "We may be kicked and down, but we will refuse to die. Port Talbot has been downgraded from a development area, but it is now essential for us to be given special development area status. The task of attracting new industries requires the kind of investment which only government agencies can provide."

This year, as a result of intense lobbying, the authority has attracted 700 new jobs to keep the unemployment rate at 7.8 per cent, one point below the average for Wales. Mr Thomas knows that without large development aid that figure could increase to nearly 10 per cent, as small companies dependent on the steelworks shut down to swell the ranks of the unemployed.

Behind the scenes at the works there is frantic union activity and an unvoiced realization that the choice could be between the total closure of Port Talbot or Llanwern, the steel plant that provides the economic base for Newport and most of Gwent.

The men seem convinced that if British Steel takes the option of making steel at Port Talbot and sending it 50 miles to Llanwern to be processed, the longest production line in the world, it would be an economic blunder that would seal the fate of both plants.

Given the choice of miseries, the men favour the slimming of both plants thus retaining the potential capacity to meet any upsurge in world demand.

The men are deeply resentful that Ravenscraig in Scotland appears to be getting preferential treatment when, according to British Steel figures, the Scottish division's record shows a yearly loss of £3,261 an employee compared with a £165 loss per man in Port Talbot and £345 at Llanwern.

A union leader said: "It is obviously a political decision made to stem any growth of nationalism in Scotland."

union branch secretary, favours the strike called by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation for January 2 as the only method of showing solidarity and opposition to the cuts. Mr Lea considers the strike a "madness", saying that it will give the company the excuse to close the plant totally.

Their views, sincerely held, have split the workforce at the plant, who share only the certainty that the good times have gone. At another table, Mr John Bamse, aged 46, reflects that after 25 years in the industry he faces a future on the dole if his job goes. "The town will be finished, dead with thousands of men chasing every little job."

That total pessimism is not shared, in public at any rate, by the Afan borough council, which, the worst option, the total closure and eventual flattening of the works, could lose it £5m a year in rates.

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The men at Port Talbot are pinning their hopes on the fact that the ore they use is shipped virtually straight into the works from a tidal harbour, making it much cheaper than Llanwern's, which has to be transported farther by rail. Port Talbot also uses a much higher proportion of cheap imported coal: an item, incidentally, which could threaten the future of 21 of south Wales's 36 pits.

But Llanwern's rolling equipment is more modern and it probably has the advantage in iron and steel making as its number three blast furnace opened a year after completion because of an industrial dispute, was until recently the most modern in the United Kingdom.

In the past two years steelworkers in Wales have seen the closure of East Moors, Cardiff, and the end of steelmaking at Ebbw Vale. And next summer Shotton will have gone, too. Shells shocked and demoralized, it is extremely unlikely that the men of Port Talbot have the will to press for a national general strike.

Rather there is a determination to enjoy this Christmas as never before and then to fight for the largest compensation they can negotiate. With grim resignation they say that Geoff Howe would be best advised to stay away from his home town. He is not at the moment its most favourite son.

Next: Cornett

Senior MI5 cover for spy claimed

By Stewart Tendler

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At that time Mr Rees wanted to go to the secret services to report a discussion he had had with Burgess many years previously, in which Burgess had said that Professor Blunt was an agent. The MI5 man saw Mr Rees with Professor Blunt and they tried to dissuade him from giving the authorities his information with argument and a veiled threat.

The MI5 man served at a crucial period in the 1950s when Professor Blunt and many others were being investigated in the wake of the defections of Burgess and Maclean. He is now said to be dead after retiring when the CIA refused to work with him. Mr Boyle said the evidence surrounding the MI5 man was circumstantial but sinister.

Mr Rees's evidence is interesting in the light of a comment made by Mr Brian Sewell, a friend of Professor Blunt, shortly after the Prime Minister revealed the professor's former role in the Commons statement last month.

Mr Sewell said that the professor had had a friend in MI5, but the man had died several years ago. The man was not in any way a Russian agent, but was loyal to Professor Blunt as a friend.

Yesterday Mr Sewell continued to refuse to disclose the name.

Atkins-Hume agreement saves Ulster talks

From Our Own Correspondent Belfast

Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, has rescued his proposed constitutional conference on power devolution from the brink of collapse. Plans are going ahead to begin the talks at Stormont on January 7.

The conference was saved after Mr Atkins gave an assurance to Roman Catholic political leaders that no issue will be barred from discussion. That was enough to persuade the Social Democratic and Labour Party to take part.

Soon afterwards the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionists, said he would not participate. The non-sectarian Alliance Party will also be there.

The agreement was reached at a meeting at Stormont Castle on Saturday between Mr Atkins and Mr John Hume, the SDLP leader, and confirmed later by the party's executive and constituency representatives.

To the SDLP to the conference Mr Atkins had to retreat from his earlier insistence that there could be no discussion of an Irish dimension to any agreement on devolution. That clearly is no longer the case.

Mr Paisley, whose new moderate position is the latest and strangest phenomenon of Ulster politics, might on that basis have been expected to withdraw his decision to attend, but he said he saw no reason to do so.

The reason behind the decision may be found in the bitter rivalry between his party and the Official Unionists, and a desire by Mr Paisley to outflank them over their outright refusal to join the "time-wasting" conference.

If some sort of agreement could be reached in the coming

months, Mr Paisley will have scored an enormous political coup and thus will have substantially advanced his ambition to be the main spokesman for Ulster Protestants.

Mr Brian Lenihan, the Irish Republic's new Foreign Minister, said yesterday that he saw some light in the Ulster situation. He was particularly optimistic about the prospects of success now that there was strong leadership in Britain and Ireland, he said.

In Ulster, too, a faint air of optimism can be detected, although Mr Hume was anxious last night to point out that the difficulties to be overcome at the conference were enormous. He thought the 1980 should be an interesting year for Anglo-Irish relations.

The agreement between Mr Atkins and Mr Hume, which has been committed to paper, says clearly that the SDLP will be free to put forward papers containing its own proposals. The agreement says the conference is not an end in itself and is merely a means of identifying the highest possible level of agreement on the transfer of responsibility for certain functions to locally elected representatives.

It says that although there is no serious prospect of agreement on a return to the power-sharing government of 1974 arrangements to take account of the interests of the minority by sharing the exercise of governmental powers will be on the table for discussion.

The crucial paragraph states in part: "Even after such a transfer of responsibility remains possible depending on the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland."

Mr James Kilfedder, independent Unionist MP for Down North, who resigned from the Official Unionists nearly a year ago, said he was disappointed by the leadership, is considering the formation of a new party.

Mr Ojutuku was working at

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HOME NEWS

Seaspeed may be sold as part of joint hovercraft operation

By Michael Baily
Shipping Correspondent

British Rail's cross-Channel hovercraft subsidiary, Seaspeed, may be sold to private interests, it is being placed with the rail Hovercraft concern.

Hovercraft, the larger and more successful of the two, was set up for sale in the summer of the parent, British Rail, group had run into financial difficulties caused by the slipping slump.

Market soundings soon showed that a combined Hovercraft-Seaspeed undertaking would be far more attractive to potential buyers than Hovercraft on its own.

British Rail, which had resisted approaches to merge Seaspeed with Hovercraft, is now believed to be not averse to adding a loss-making subsidiary, and the Government is thought to favour a more involving an element of demerger.

Although Hovercraft has succeeded in making profits of our firm in recent years, the a in oil prices has badly affected the fuel-intensive hovercraft and the general feeling that after building up traffic about 2,500,000 passengers a year, the two hovercraft operators will find it more difficult to compete, particularly in

the face of the price war between the conventional ferries, which are more economical.

Some potential buyers have looked at Hovercraft on its own, but no offers have been made. Now at least three unidentified groups, not primarily shipping but with transport interests, are considering making a bid for Hovercraft and Seaspeed together.

Concentrating sailings mainly at Seaspeed's Dover terminal and maintenance mainly at Hovercraft's Ramsgate works would make possible gains of about a year from a combined operation, studies suggest.

Although Hovercraft has been the pacemaker in the past decade, Seaspeed, with its highly successful "scurched" BHC Mountbatten, is catching up and would be doing even better were it not for the unreliable performance of the French M500 last season.

If the deal falls through, a possible outcome would be the breakup of Hovercraft and disposal of its fleet of Mountbattens abroad.

That would be strongly opposed by local interests, not least by Mr Jonathan Aitken, MP for Thanet East, who is understood to have made representations to Mr Norman Fowler, the Minister of Transport.

Fertlers march on Downing Street

By Trevor Fishlock

The fertlers of Britain marched on Downing Street yesterday to strike a blow for freedom and to save their craft from extinction.

"Freedom for Fertlers", their banners said as, with their fertile gear on their shoulders, like rifles at the ready, they marched to No 10 from Parliament Square to present a petition to the Prime Minister.

"Perhaps", one of their leaders said hopefully, "we may have a sympathetic ear at No 10. We understand that Mrs Thatcher's son, Mark, has bought the gear and has gone in for a bit of fertling himself."

Fertling is argot for the art and craft of amateur metal detecting. Its practitioners may easily be identified as they shuffle over beach and heather, wearing EMPs and waving metal detectors.

In the four or five years since it started, the hobby has attracted about 200,000 adherents. The lure of treasure trove is, of course, at the heart of it, and although many people have found not much more than a fistful of old iron and sundry Edward VII pennies, some fertlers have struck real cracks of gold.

Fertlers, however, have some powerful enemies. Certain archaeologists and historians have strong misgivings about the spread of the hobby.

They feel that in part amateurs with their S15 gadgets should not be allowed to trample on potentially valuable sites.

The anxieties of archaeologists in this matter are looked after in a section of the new Ancient Monuments Act. It is to come into force in the spring and prohibits the use of metal detectors on sites in the guardianship of the Department of the Environment or of local authorities.

For amateur metal detectors that is more than the wedge's thin end. That is why more than 400 of them marched yesterday to demand that "personal freedom to pursue a constructive and educational hobby is not denied."

Mr Tony Hammond, one of the organizers of Dig, the Detector Information Group, said: "The new Act has the laudable aim of protecting our heritage; but it is being used to restrict the peaceful activities of detector hobbyists."

Already local authorities are acting against us. Espying Power is closed to us and soon we shall be outlawed in Kent and Sussex.

More than 100 metal detector clubs from all over the country joined the march.



The Skopelos Sky, a Greek-owned tanker carrying oil, breaking up after being flung on to rocks off Cornwall yesterday.

Ship breaks apart in Cornish cove

A ship broke in two yesterday after being flung by huge seas on to rocks in the Cornish cove where the BBC filmed the wreck scenes for *Poldark*.

Hundreds of people flocked to the hamlet of Portquin to see the stranded ship, the 2,774-ton Skopelos Sky. The Greek-owned vessel hit rocks at the base of 100ft cliffs.

She was the biggest victim of the storm which wrought its worst havoc over Devon and Cornwall. In her cargo were

2,000 drums of industrial oil, which coastguards hoped could be removed before more bad weather spilled them into the sea.

Hurricane-force winds caused the cargo to shift and drove the Skopelos Sky, with a 20 degree list, into Portquin Bay, which at its widest is two miles across. Nine of her crew were winched off by helicopters and then the skipper and five others fought for seven hours in a vain attempt to save her.

They were taken off, also by helicopter, less than 10 minutes before the vessel was flung on the rocks.

In the Channel an empty life raft was yesterday identified as from the French trawler *Altra* and an RAF Nimrod aircraft sighted wreckage. The trawler's

crew of five are feared lost in the storm.

The search for the 67ft fishing vessel, *Ocean Monarch*, and her crew of seven off Shetland was called off yesterday and she was presumed lost.

The Bank-registered boat made a routine radio contact early on Saturday and the last message from her was at 4.20 am, when she was 200 miles north-east of Aberdeen. She reported waves up to 50ft high.

In the biggest mass evacuation of a North Sea oil installation, 527 men were lifted by helicopter from the crane barge, *Hermud*, on Saturday as she drifted in rough seas after her anchors broke.

The *Hermud*, 50,000 tonnes, was stationed 110 miles north-east of Aberdeen, in the Texaco

Tartan oilfield, when gales caused four of her 12 anchor chains to fail.

Yesterday afternoon the *Hermud*, with some 80 men on board, reported it had regained power and was returning to the Tartan field.

The body of a crewman of the capsized trawler, *Petit Laurent*, was found off the coast, and nine other crewmen, as well as the trawler, *L'Ondine*, were still missing.

There was still no word of the trawler, *Karguen*, and its crew of five or six, which was due to return to port yesterday after fishing in the Irish Sea.

On land, at least 1,000 trees were blown down in Cornwall alone, with more than 2,000 properties damaged.

Two brothers die in house blaze

Two brothers died after a fire yesterday at their home near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Michael Robinson, aged 12, and his brother Mark, aged five, were asleep upstairs when the fire was discovered about 3.30 am by their sister, Kim, aged 21, who was asleep in a downstairs room of the house in Queen Street, Kirby-in-Ashfield.

Poverty level for some separated wives

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Government has stepped in to stop the incomes of some separated wives rising above the poverty level next year. It has changed the rules on how maintenance payments are treated for supplemented benefit purposes, saving an estimated £10m a year.

The change is disclosed today in *One Parent Times*, the journal of the National Council for One Parent Families, which disputes the Government's

figures. It points out that only 668 divorced mothers were known to be benefiting last June from the present rules, which allow maintenance paid to a child to be ignored in assessing the benefit for the mother and her other children.

Next year, when parts of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act, 1978, are expected to be implemented, several hundred separated wives would have benefited from the present rules. But the Government has

decided that maintenance paid to a child will count in full in assessing the family's benefit, ending a provision that enables fathers to raise their former family's total income above the poverty level.

The journal also says that trade unions, employers and the Government are ignoring the needs of working lone parents when their children are ill. It accuses Britain of having a "shameful and shabby" record compared with many European countries.

NHS to pay patient's £4,000 EEC surgery bill

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

A National Health Service patient has won a six-month battle to have a hip operation in a West German clinic at a cost to the NHS of £4,000.

Mr Pierre Gilles, aged 49, a manager from Fulham, west London, said yesterday that an operation he had in Britain as an NHS patient was not successful and left him with one leg shorter than the other. Surgeons told him that he would have to wait months for another operation.

German surgeons at Mainz, after an X-ray examination, said that the operation would be done within hours of his arrival at the clinic there. He would be in the hospital for three weeks. The cost is about twice that of a similar stay in a London teaching hospital.

Mr Gilles will go to the Mainz clinic next month. His first plea to the Department of Health and Social Security was refused.

The success of his appeal against that, he said, resulted largely from a little-known judgment of the European Court of Justice. His contention was that if a medical service was available in another EEC country, that availability was reason enough for the patient to be sent.

The judgment, in the Piert case, was that a patient should be entitled to cash benefits provided by the competent institution in accordance with legislation which it administers.

The judgment added: "However, by agreement between the competent institution and the institution of the place of stay such benefits may be provided by the latter institution on behalf of the former in accordance with the legislation of the competent state."

The DHSS does not discuss individual cases but an official said that there was provision for a patient to obtain treatment in another country in certain circumstances. Leaflet SA 28 explained the details.

The treatment sought must be available under the sickness insurance scheme of the country concerned and must be authorized by the department. There were probably only 20 to 30 such cases a year. "There must be very good reasons," he said.

The British Medical Association said that a consultant had to decide whether it was medically important that a patient should receive treatment in another country paid by the NHS.

A good reason would be treatment of a chest patient at a high altitude hospital, perhaps in Switzerland.

Plan to curb rates 'may hit the wrong targets'

Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The Government's proposals to discourage local authorities from making excessive rate increases could hit the wrong targets, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities says today.

In its opposition to the financial provisions in the Local Government, Planning and Land Act, the association criticizes the intention of the Government to reduce the grant payable to councils whose rate increases in 1980-81 exceeds the local uniform rate—an arbitrary figure set by the Department of the Environment—by a substantial, but so far unspecified, amount.

"That's rate was high was no of judging whether a local authority was a big spender. Mr C. Taylor, chairman of the A.M.A., said.

The national uniform rate has been fixed at 11.9%, and Mr Taylor said there were A.M.A.

authorities whose rate poundage was already close to or above that, but whose spending compared favourably with that of other authorities below the 11.9% level.

Some member authorities have poundages of 130% or more and stand a very good chance of being hit by the penalty clause in this Bill whether they put their rates up or not.

As an example, the Association said that one member council had a rate poundage of 88.2% and a unit cost for secondary education of £597.12p a pupil—against another authority's figures of \$117.51p and £200.43p.

In setting their rates for 1980-81 local authorities would have a view on whether they were likely to be penalized and if so whether to raise for a possible loss of grant.

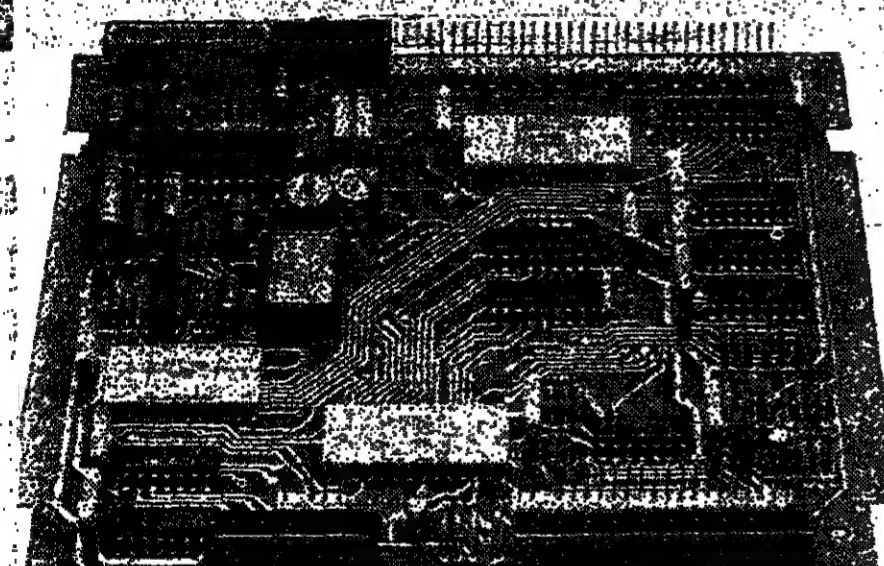
"If they decide to raise for any possible loss of grant, that in turn increases the risk that they will be penalized," Mr Taylor said.

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OVERSEAS

Tehran given advance warning of Shah's departure for Panama

From Robert Fisk
Tehran, Dec 16

The Iranian authorities were aware of the American Embassy's plan to fly the deposed Shah to Panama at least two days before he left the United States last night. Details of his departure and time of departure were passed on to the Embassy by three Western sources in Tehran, at the request of the United States.

Although no diplomatic mission here will comment on the matter, the British Embassy in Tehran today said that the Iranian Foreign Ministry had said that the Shah was to leave for Panama.

The Iranian Revolutionary Guard, which had long ago said that the Americans did not extradite the Shah, appears to have concluded that this step was viable. As a result, there is a growing official silence in Tehran today.

It might be an indication to describe this as a collision between the American and Iranian governments. It is nevertheless a new and potentially full direction in the course of their relations.

Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the Iranian Minister, at a press conference in Tehran tonight, said the Shah's journey to Panama was "the first victory" of the Islamic Revolution. He spoke of "a peaceful resolution of the crisis" and said that the American Embassy in Tehran would go to the aid of the Islamic Revolution.

Trudeau needed
Ottawa, Dec 16.—The executive of Canada's Liberal Party decided to ask Mr Pierre Trudeau to stay on as party leader to fight the general election next February.

ambassy staff need not be regarded as ominously as it sounds.

It is still unclear how much advance notice was given to Ayatollah Khomeini but two Iranian Foreign Ministers have already resigned their jobs because they failed to keep the Iranian fully informed on government policy and Mr Qotbzadeh, the present holder of the post, is unlikely to have repeated their mistake. It seems likely, therefore, that the Ayatollah was indeed given some idea of the Shah's movements. By early this evening, he had made no comment.

It is equally obvious, however, that the students were aware of the Shah's departure. The students' committee, which usually defines their policy towards the hostages, was at first too stunned to give any reaction.

This afternoon, however, they issued a statement in which they threatened to punish anyone who tried to spy on them. The full flavour of their somewhat portentous "communiqué" is best conveyed in the following extract from their statement.

"In order to free itself from its great political deadlock and to fulfil its national duty, the United States has embarked on a futile effort and has sent the criminal Mohamed Reza to Panama. We hereby announce that to reveal the treacherous plots by the criminal United States and to punish it, the spy hostages will be killed."

Rival ayatollah denounces one-man rule
Qom, Dec 16.—Ayatollah Shariat-Madari, Iran's second highest religious leader, has accused the Ayatollah Khomeini of one-man rule.

Referring in an interview to the election last August of a clerical-dominated council of experts to review the constitution, he said the nation had wanted the council "to exercise its own powers and not to give itself power and give it to someone else."

He said article 110 of the constitution, approved in a referendum earlier this month, was against national sovereignty. The article gives Ayatollah Khomeini sweeping judicial and executive powers. —Reuter.

Court tells Iran to release all hostages

From Robert Schull
Amsterdam, Dec 16

The International Court of Justice in The Hague has ordered Iran to release immediately all the American hostages being held in that country and to restore the embassy in Tehran to exclusive United States control.

The fifteen judges of the court were unanimous in their decision.

Iran, which did not attend, was also told that it should give the American diplomats "immunity from any form of criminal jurisdiction and facilities to leave Iran."

America had asked for provisional measures pending final judgment in the case. It wants the court to rule that Iran has violated international law in "tolerating, encouraging and failing to prevent and punish" those who have seized the hostages.

The court also ordered both the United States and Iran to refrain from any action which could aggravate the tension between the two countries or render a solution of the dispute more difficult.

It rejected Iran's contention that it should not consider the case because the holding of the hostages was "a marginal and secondary aspect of an overall problem."

Mr Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the Iranian Foreign Minister, had stated that the court could not examine the American application divorced from its proper context described as "all the crimes perpetrated in Iran by the American Government."

But according to the court "if the Iranian Government considers the alleged activities of the United States legally to have a close connexion with the subject matter" it remains open to that government to present its own arguments to the court regarding those activities.

The court said: "The institution of diplomacy with its concomitant privileges and immunities has withstood the test of centuries and proved to be an instrument essential for effective cooperation in the international community."

Larsen wins chess cup
Buenos Aires, Dec 16.—Bent Larsen, the Danish grandmaster, won the Clarin Cup chess tournament here with a three-point lead over his closest competitors.

Anthony Miles of Britain, Miguel Najdorf of Argentina, Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union, and Ulf Andersson of Sweden, shared the second place. —Reuter.



Lord Soames making his first informal contacts with Rhodesians after a church service

Salisbury politicians expect accord

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, Dec 16

In spite of the renewed deadlock in the London talks over ceasefire arrangements in Southern Rhodesia, there is widespread confidence in political circles here that the Patriotic Front will agree to the British proposals.

Dr Siles Mundawarara, the former Deputy Prime Minister who led the Salisbury delegation in the last days of the Lancaster House talks, said on his return here today that he was confident the Patriotic Front would "eventually come in."

However, he expressed doubts over whether the Patriotic Front really wanted a peaceful and democratic solution or intended to impose through war and intimidation a "refabricated governmental structure" based on foreign ideologies.

Mr Christopher Sakala, a spokesman for Bishop Abel Muzorewa's United African National Council, accused the Patriotic Front of repeating its delaying tactics and said: "In the final analysis it will sign."

Mr Dennis Divaris, a senior member of the Rhodesian Front Party, said the Patriotic Front would sign when it had infiltrated enough of its guerrillas into the country to influence the way people vote in the rural areas.

The belief that the Patriotic Front will not allow itself to be left out of a final agreement was reinforced by the announcement that the United States was to end sanctions against Southern Rhodesia at midnight tonight. This will greatly

increase the pressures on the Patriotic Front and its backers, the "front line" states, to participate in a settlement.

Meanwhile, it has been learnt that the UANC is to put whites up as candidates for the 20 white seats in the proposed 100-seat Parliament. The names of the candidates will be announced shortly. In terms of the Constitution agreed at Lancaster House, black parties can put up white candidates for the 20 seats elected by white, coloured and Asian voters, and white parties can put up black candidates for the 80 seats elected by black voters.

The aim of the UANC is to try to prevent the Rhodesian Front from gaining all 20 white seats, as seems likely at present. The Rhodesian Front has published a series of revised principles and policies drawn up by a five-member committee headed by Mr Rowan Cronje, former Deputy Minister of Land and Rural Development.

The document attempts to change the party's racial image while committing it to the preservation of a strong and prosperous democratic sovereign state opposed to communism.

Mr Ian Smith, the party's leader, said it had been "realistic enough to accept change and adapt ourselves. We do not believe changes mean we have to accept surrender and collapse as far as the white man is concerned."

"Communist victory": Mr Smith, commenting on the outcome of the Lancaster House conference, said: "In the last 30 years, the Communists have been trying in vain to destroy Rhodesia, but with the connivance of Lord Carrington and the British Foreign Office, they have succeeded. It is a victory for Communism." —Agence France-Presse.

Zambia hopeful: President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia indicated today that he thought a peaceful solution could be reached in Southern Rhodesia. Addressing a political conference in Lusaka, he said: "I am delighted to open this conference at a time when I can see hope for Zimbabwe after 14 years of protracted war." —Reuter.

US lifts sanctions: President Carter yesterday bowed to pressure from Congress and London and decreed the ending of sanctions against Southern Rhodesia. The decision comes into effect at midnight tonight, (our Washington correspondent writes).

The British had strongly urged the Americans to lift sanctions, now that the 11th lateral Declaration of Independence has been abandoned.

Britain criticized: Mr Blaise Rabezafika, chairman of the African Group at the United Nations, denounced Britain's lifting of sanctions against Southern Rhodesia as "completely unacceptable and illegal" without approval from the Security Council. —Reuter.

Leading article, page 13

Correction
Owing to an error in transmission it was incorrectly stated in Saturday's newspaper that more than 100 people were understood to be awaiting execution in Southern Rhodesia. This figure should be 10.

Israel balks at transfer of power to Arabs

From Our Correspondent
Tel Aviv, Dec 16

On the eve of negotiations on the proposed autonomous council for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, Dr Yosef Burg, the chief Israeli negotiator, rejected the suggestion made by Dr Mustapha Khalil, his Egyptian counterpart, that all the powers held by the Israelis should be transferred.

"Not all the powers of the military Government will be transferred and those powers to be transferred will not be transferred automatically," Dr Burg said in a radio interview tonight. The powers and responsibilities would be decided by the negotiations, he said.

Dr Burg added, however, that the proposed council could fully control matters that were not problematical. Other questions, such as water resources, would have to be controlled jointly with Israel. As for security, Dr Burg said that "nobody can be a partner because it is our life."

Saudi arms deal: The Israeli Cabinet today reviewed recent developments in the Middle East, including events in Iran and a report of a big American arms sale to Saudi Arabia. The session was highly secret and no details have been disclosed.

Officials have expressed concern at a reported announcement today by Prince Sultan bin Abdul-Aziz, the Saudi Defence and Aviation Minister, that Saudi Arabia had concluded a \$600 million deal with the United States.

The deal is reported to include 6,500 rockets and bombs for Saudi Arabia's 114 F5 fighter-bombers, 660 air-to-air Sidewinder missiles and 916 air-to-surface missiles. —Reuter.

Visions find an 'Agatha Christie' murderer

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Dec 16

A particularly gruesome murder has been uncovered in North Carolina, in circumstances very similar to Agatha Christie's last novel, *Sleeping Murderer*. In the book, a woman returns to her childhood home, where events trigger memories long-suppressed of the time when she saw the murdered body of her mother.

In the North Carolina case, Mrs Annie Perry recently started having "visions" of the time her father disappeared in April, 1944. She was then 10. She told the police last week that "on Easter morning she saw her mother in the kitchen and the sink full of pots and pans of bloody water."

Later that day she saw her father's body almost naked in an unused room. During the night she heard "butchered sounds."

The family lived on a farm, and had an outside privy. In the following week when Mr Perry was 11, he saw his father's face floating.

Her mother, Mrs William Cameron, reported her husband missing, and in due course obtained a divorce, on grounds of desertion.

When the daughter recently began to have "visions," she went to a psychiatrist who sent her to the police.

They took the matter seriously enough to obtain a search warrant. She took them to the site of the privy, where they dug and found human bones.

On Friday afternoon, a police found Mrs Cameron. She had shot herself, leaving a suicide note in which she confessed to the murder of her husband.

Dresden Tintoretto 'bought for four bottles of vodka'

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Dec 16

The Tintoretto painting missing from the Dresden Museum since 1945, which an Israeli art dealer allegedly tried to sell in New York last week for \$120,000, had been acquired for four bottles of vodka, a Tel Aviv newspaper reported today.

A Jew from the Soviet Republic of Georgia, obtained it from a former Red Army soldier and Soviet customs examiners did not recognise its value when it took it with him while emigrating three years ago, according to Yediot Aharnoth.

The newspaper gave its source vaguely as friends of Mr Raymond Vinokur, the art dealer who bought the work from the immigrant and was arrested when he offered to sell it to an undercover agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mr Vinokur was also an immigrant from the Soviet Union. Police headquarters in Jerusalem said that Interpol had reported that the man had no criminal record. The police here had not been requested to investigate and have not searched for Mr Joseph Silbermann, named by Mr Vinokur as the supplier of the painting, according to press reports from New York.

Ring away merrily this Christmas, but spare a thought for the operator.

With Cheap Rate again on Christmas Day and Boxing Day (Christmas Day and New Year's Day in Scotland) for all inland calls, why not ring all your furthest and dearest with seasonal greetings?

But, please, bear one thing in mind.

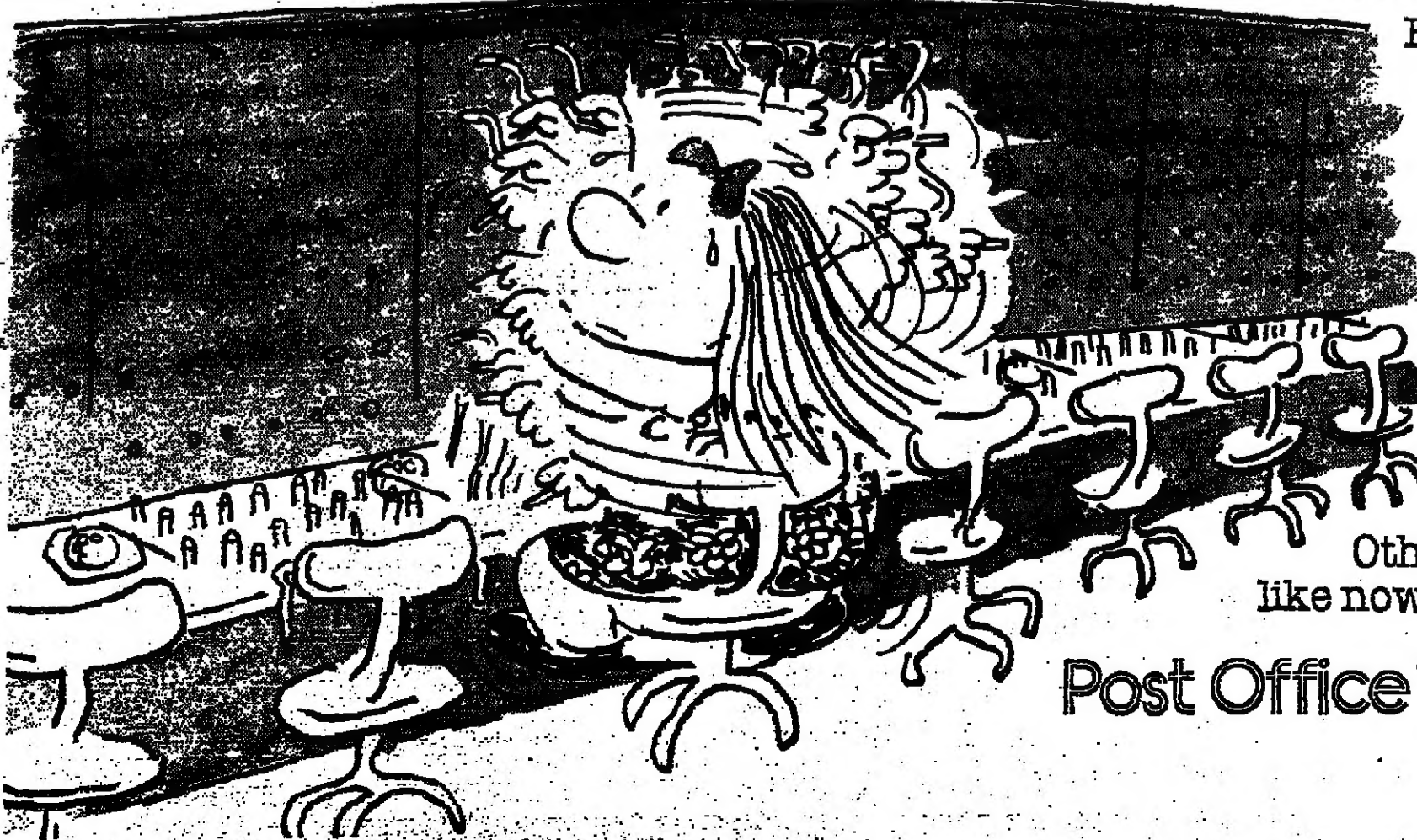
Many of our operators will be celebrating with their families, too.

So on Christmas Day (New Year's Day in Scotland) operators will deal only with 999 calls and others such as radiophone calls which cannot normally be dialled.

There will be no Directory Enquiry service but, of course, in cases of real distress operators will help with any type of call or enquiry.

Otherwise you can jingle bells as much as you like now the whole country's on STD.

Post Office Telecommunications



South rally in vain after Tomes gets his marching orders

Tennis
**Triumphant
bow for
Smith and
Lutz**

Hockey
**Great Britain pass
Self examination**

[illegible]

Campbell keeps senior place in trial

[illegible]

Rugby League Quinn moves past century mark

By Keith Macklin
Seven goals. Huddersfield yesterday gave the Featherstone Rovers stand-off half, Steve Quinn, a place among the statistics if not the legends of this Lancashire town. Quinn joined Gateshead and Warrington in scoring 100 goals for the club. He has been a professional since 1961. In his first season, Huddersfield game money was up from 15 to 103. Quinn's achievement is all the more meritorious because he has a club which has lost without a single dropped goal among the 103 Rovers. In addition to celebrating Quinn's century, the club has a chance to win the league, and are comfortably perched on top of the second division table with promotion beckoning more and more a possibility.

After witnessing their young striker trip the day, over a wonderer, wagsman, were 100 yards of yards, sidestep and sidestep. Widnes supporters were "Wilson ? " why these Spurs

Racing

Diamond Edge a good Gold Cup investment

By Michael Seely

The 20-1 that is on offer with the spreader Diamond Edge for the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup represents extremely good value and should be taken.

It is the horse of the year of top-class steepchaseurs, the Gold Cup has tended to be something of a graveyard for ante-post favourites since 1960 and outstanding claims have failed to reach the start. But even allowing for this, the fact that no credible reasons are given for Diamond Edge to be standing at such long odds.

Consider the facts. The ill-fated 1976 season was that horse's Cup. At Sandown Park in February Diamond Edge beat Alverton by three-quarters of a length in the 1976-77 Doncaster Chase. Alverton improved between then and Cheltenham but there is no reason why Diamond Edge should be a second place there is little doubt that if a slight accident on the morning of the race had not occurred, Alverton would have been withdrawn, he would have gone to the post more fancied than his stable companion, Gaffer.

During his last season he won the Gold Cup and the Tote Cup.

Fulke Walford said afterwards, "This victory was at his peak in March and not today. There is no doubt in my mind that he would have gone close to winning the Gold Cup."

Diamond Edge has the heart of a lion, can quicken appreciably, stays for ever, jumps like lightning—though sometimes a trifle over-jumpy.

Diamond Edge is now in his third season of jumping fences and will be at his prime at the age of six.

He has won the Tote Cup, his first outing in the Mandarin Steeplechase at Newbury on December 23.

The Gold Cup picture has changed dramatically. Jack of Trumps is favourite after his 12-length victory in the Puchestown Steeplechase. At Ascot Fred Winter was wiped out by the Midnight Court after the 1978 winner could only finish fifth to John Cherry in the Long Walk Chase.

Winter is a proven winner, better than at Haddington, but still a trifle flat and is most unlikely to run in the King George VI Chase at Ascot.

Winter's efforts will now be

horse at his peak form for the Gold Cup.

Grand Canyon was another disappointment. After making the early running in the SGB Steeplechase, he was pulled up before the last fence. It must be long odds against Grand Canyon being fit to start in the Gold Cup and the big Boxing Day race now appears to lie between Jack of Tramps and Silver Buck, who have been well up to the mark after racing at Nottingham.

Full marks must go to Nicky Henderson for turning out Raffi in the second round of the SGB. However, with Grand Canyon and Modesty Forbids running in the same heat, the fact that the 12-year-old Filly Boy finished second must make the form slightly suspect as a future guide.

The SGB Hire Shop Hurdie was a complete fiasco with Pollardstown falling at the third fence and the only winner being Sadsworth Boy. Secret Ballot collapsed at the final flight when challenged by the eventful winner, Tommy Carmody.

Tommy Carmody is convinced

won and the four-year-old rodeo boys for Towcester and Ludlow. Becha Burdie next Saturday. The Hurdie will be followed by a tilt at the John Barr Whisky Hurdie at Ayr on Saturday. The Ayr event will include the first at second in the Mecca Bookmakers' Golden Vase and Silver Shadow.

The brightest moments of the day were Venture to Cognac's solid victory in the Killiney Steeplechase and the brilliant performance of the new recruit, the 11-year-old gelding entering triumph at Nottingham. Wayward Lad will now be claimed by Chepton's owner, a Cistercian monk, and the 10-year-old Hurdie will suffer next Saturday.

Leicester goes ahead: The clerk of the course at Leicester, Nick Lees, said yesterday that the stewards had inspected the course and given the go-ahead for racing today. No further inspection was planned. The going on the hurdles course will be good to heavy on a steeplechase course soft. Racing at Leicester Bridge on Saturday was called off because of the bad weather.

STATE OF GOING (Official): Leicester, the Hurdie heavy; steeplechase, heavy.

Today will tell
navies's slips
are excused

Richard Strepton at one saying about rugby is a game for players rather than spectators came to mind on Friday as the Coventry and Leicester forwards trooped in to start the match. The Leicester players were in favour rather than in a skillfully prevailing theme possible in cold and wet as Gloucester by a goal and a penalty goal, 23, to 10, and a try, 15, to 10, in circumstances, two mistakes at the end by Huw Davies did keep in proportion. The second half was a matter of minutes when Davies, the Coventry off, attempted a clearance near his own 22-metre line, did not clear it, and was caught; the opposing stand-off was able to collect the ball and the game's only try, which he converted. Llan Davies was dismissed when a out kick was charged down, in this time Gloucester did rofl.

There are two errors were personal ones for Davies as overall avoided the few touches of seen among the backs from the Cardiff side. The first, an England selector reviewed Davies's mistakes will write today because the England selectors will announce that the referee is not involved.

**Somebody up there looks
down luckily on the Irish**

By Gordon Allan

They tack glibly about the luck of the Irish, but there was much more than luck to the victory of the All-Ireland football team at Old Derb Park on Saturday. There was strength, determination and insight, which enabled Irish to win by two penalty goals, a 15-point tally (15 points) to a penalty goal (3).

Takes the luck first. In this match it blessed Irish in a slightly unusual manner. Each of the three goal kicks that were over for them hit a post on the way. It is common enough: for perhaps one such kick to hit a post and the other to go straight by, but not three. Any team for whom that happens may feel entitled to take victory for granted. Somebody up there must like them.

The kicks in question were two penalties by Meavell and a dropped goal by Condon. It is probable that only Meavell's penalty would have been scored where he wanted it if the ball had not glanced off a post. For Welch, on the other hand, Garth Lewis was not so lucky. He missed on five attempts. His misses were not near enough for deflections.

Irish won the forward argument

Results at the weekend

[illegible]

Leicester programme

[illegible]

Kelso programme

12.15 EARLSTON OPPORTUNITY HURDLE (Handicap: £356)

2m)	
1	Midnight Crescent (B), T. Craig, 9-12-6
2	Neville's Lad (W), W. A. Stephenson, 9-11-6
3	Golden Lane (B), J. Dalglish, 9-10-6
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196	0-2-11-2
197	0-2-11-2
198	0-2-11-2
199	0-2-11-2
200	0-2-11-2

7-2 Neville's Lad, 1-1 Golden Lane, 4-2 Sweet Melody, 5-1 Park Row, 6-4 George
 1-1 Amazon Hunt, 1-1 Mount Street, 1-1 others.

12.45 ST BOSWELLS CHASE (Handicap: £782 : 2m)

1	2m-2300	Tanaka Brainer (C), T. Craig, 7-12-0	1	W. Moore
2	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	2	0-2-11-2
3	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	3	0-2-11-2
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98	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	98	0-2-11-2
99	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	99	0-2-11-2
100	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	100	0-2-11-2

6-1 Brainer Hill, 3-1 Jockey Course, 4-2 Sweet Melody, 5-1 Stay-Bell, 7-2
 1-1 Amazon Hunt, 1-1 Mount Street, 1-1 others.

1.15 BIRCHAM HURDLE (Div 1: Novices: £508 : 2m)

1	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	1	0-2-11-2
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4	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	4	0-2-11-2
5	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	5	0-2-11-2
6	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	6	0-2-11-2
7	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	7	0-2-11-2
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9	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	9	0-2-11-2
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11	0-2-11-2	0-2-11-2	11	0-2-11-2
12	0-2-11-2			

minton

Miss Webster displays great sense of purpose

[illegible]

Boxing

EBU inquiry into finding by British doctors

The European Boxing Union's (EBU) executive commission have instructed their medical experts to report on a finding by British doctors that a 12-round bout can be more dangerous to the contestants than 15 rounds.

European title bouts were regularly scheduled from 15 to 12 rounds in 1974, and the EBU's general assembly will decide next May on the basis of their doctors' recommendations whether to continue the practice.

The commission also decided to back a claim by the Italian Rocky Marciano that the World Boxing council should give him a chance to regain his title by fighting a 12-round bout to Maurice Hope, of Britain, last March. But it ruled against recognizing the new super-weight category recently proposed by the World Boxing Council.

Mauris Frazier, the 19-year-old son of the former world heavyweight champion, Joe Frazier, will fight the heavy-weight title at the first world junior amateur boxing championships in Yokohama yesterday. Frazier had a Welter down by a knockout after two minutes after two minutes. It was the second round. It

was Frazier's 42nd win inside the distance in his unbeaten, 43-bout career.

England's two finalists, light-midweight Nick Wilsford and light-heavyweight David Croft, were both stopped in the second round of their bouts. Wilsford found the fierce right-hand punching of the American Alvin Mayes too much for him and was saved by the referee after two minutes 30 seconds of the second round. Croft was stopped by the Russian Alexander Lebedev, after one minute 49 seconds of the second.

United States' won five titles, the Soviet Union four and South Korea and Bulgaria one each—Reuter.

(Herald: Sam Gaines said Frazier took seventh round.)

1974 AMATEUR: Heavyweight Gary Conner (US) knocked out Larry Boone (UK) in the second round.

BARRACANQUILLA: WBA super heavyweight championhip: Ricardo Cardena (Cuba) knocked out Larry Boone (UK) in the second round.

1974 AMATEUR: Superweight championhip: Pat Chan-lee (S Korea) knocked out Lebedev (Russia), second round.

American football

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Green Bay Packers won the Super Bowl, 16-6, over the New York Jets, 2-1, Miami Dolphins 24-7.

american football

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Green Bay Packers 18, Detroit Lions 13, New York Jets 27, Miami Dolphins 24.

Leicester selections

Our Racing Staff
1.30 Scotc Yarn. 1.0 Nova Eldorado. 1.30 White Paper. 2.0 Sonny
1.30 3.30 Knockaken. 3.0 Sharo.

scot

125: 1. John Cherry (46-1); 2. 150: 1. Raffi Nelson (52 Havi-2; 2. fishy 50y (4-1); 3. Master 50y 6-1; 4. 70 ran. NR: Governor's Last. 2.50: 1. Young Arthur (13-2); 2. Arville (1-2 4 ran. 3. Dranauf (7-2; 7 ran. 3. 1. Swaine Prince (9-1; 2. Double Midge (11-2); 3. No Pardon 6-11, 18 ran.

Also selections

1.15 Nellie's Lad. 12.45 Oakley Cross. 1.15 Coriace. 1.45 Fidler on the

Nottingham

10. 1. Blaford 18-1; 2. Bolton
12-1; 3. Netherdon 12-6 fav.

120. 1. Wayward Lad 10-11 fav.
2. Three Bars 9-10; 1. Corbiere
9-7; 23 ran 10-11 Jim.

130. 1. The Green Castle 7-11; 2.
Red Flag 5-11; 3. Score 9-2;
ran NR Double Grassing.

140. 1. Run Hard 12-1 fav.; 3.
Ancient Bard 12-11; 5. Alia 11-1;
17 ran NR Skinfles.

150. 1. Tide Wave 12-1 fav.; 2.
Wolfin Express 12-11; 3. Mossy Appleton
9-21; 12 ran.

Commercial Properties

Restoration
office
buildings
living

Restoration—or refurbish—to use the current lingo of older office buildings continues to turn over a steady pace. For example, the Royal Insurance has bought from the London Council the old No. 1, Queen's Gate Buildings, Darnley Street, London, SW1, more than £6m.

The building is being extensively renovated in conjunction with Builders Amalgamated Co and the Civic Property Companies.

The building, which is due ready for occupation in early autumn, will provide

wide 38,000 sq. ft. of air-conditioned offices on nine floors. St Quintin acted for Royal Insurance and is letting agent. Builders Amalgamated was represented by Brian Cooper and Co and Civic Property Companies by Douglas Good and Graham Gold.

In the City the 21-year unexpired lease held by National Westminster Bank for its office, at 1 Lombard Street, London, EC3, has been acquired by Scottish Provident Institution, the freeholders. The premises are to be extensively modernized before re-letting next year. Jones Lang Wootton acted for the freeholders and is letting agent. St Quintin acted for National Westminster. The space extends to about 4,500 sq. ft. plus 3,000 sq. ft. at basement level.

For many years the premises were the headquarters of Smith's Bank, which was originally a private family banking house established in the City in 1758. They became available

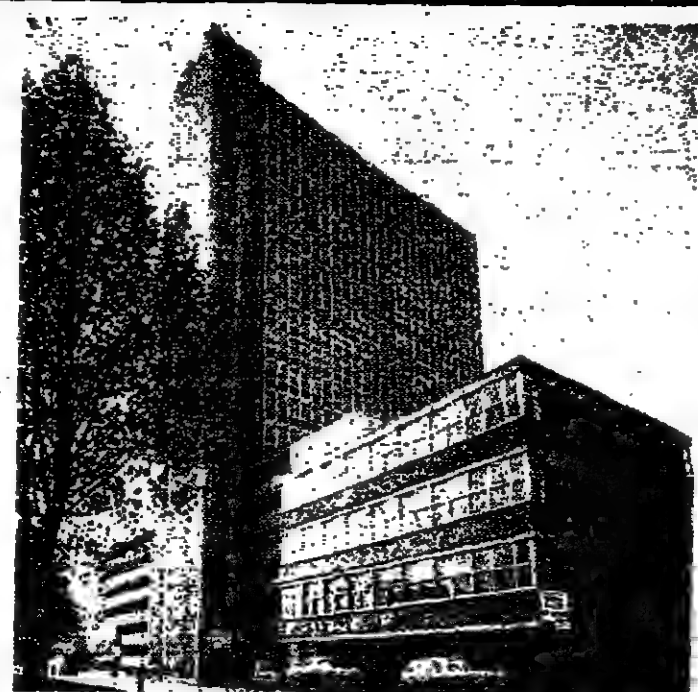
as a result of National Westminster's decision to merge the business with its Princes Street office.

Just outside London, Estates and General Investments has obtained detailed planning consent for an office development at Harefield Place, Uxbridge. The scheme will include the complete restoration of an existing Georgian mansion dating from the 18th century, which has a Grade two listing as being of special architectural or historic interest.

The mansion of about 18,000 sq. ft. stands in about 10 acres of grounds, and will be renovated in keeping with the original design. The developer has also obtained planning permission for an extension of 12,000 sq. ft. to be built in an unusual half-crescent shape to take advantage of the slope of the site.

Completion is due early in 1981. The site adjoins the M40 and is within easy reach of Heathrow Airport and the M25.

In Manchester, Hambro acquired nos 1-3 York Street from the National Westminster Bank for an undis-



City House, Portsmouth, formerly occupied by the Zurich Insurance Group and now let to Pali Europe.

closed sum. This building, an example of Edwardian architecture, also has a Grade two listing. Completed in 1902, it is an

and York Street. Period features will be preserved in the renovation.

Work is expected to start in the next few months and when completed will provide a basement ground floor banking hall, and 18,000 sq. ft. of self-contained offices. A large private car park will be provided, and the total development value of the scheme will be about £2m. Wraith and Co, of Manchester, acted for Hambro.

In Bristol, the renovation of St Brandon's House in Great George Street, being carried out by Capital and Counties Property Co, will be completed shortly. The building comprises about 13,275 sq. ft. of offices in seven suites which can be used singly or together in sizes from 580 sq. ft.

The original building was built in the late 18th century and for much of its life was occupied by St Brandon's Clergy Daughters' School. Many of the original features of the building have been retained. Architects were Lee Greenfield and Peter Layton, of Bristol, and letting is through J. P. Surge and

Sons, also of Bristol. Rents are expected to be about £4 per sq. ft.

City House in Portsmouth, previously occupied by the Zurich Insurance Group, has been re-let by Jones Lang Wootton and Hall, Pain and Foster to Pali Europe, Ltd.

The building provides some 58,000 sq. ft. comprising a 12-storey office tower and a three-storey annex connected to a multi-storey car park. The letting was priced at about £2 a sq. ft. A development by Rank City Wall, City House is in Havant Street, beside Portsmouth Harbour rail and bus interchange.

two modern inter-linked blocks totalling about 40,000 sq. ft. together with nearly 30,000 sq. ft. of older space which has redevelopment potential.

The site is zoned for industrial purposes, but it is understood the local authority would consider a number of other uses. Elliott Son and Boynton is acting for BSC.

Fluidrive Engineering Co, through Pepper Angliss and Yarwood, has sold a site of 3.3 acres at Worton Road, Isleworth, Middlesex, to the Fleming Property Unit Trust for industrial development in conjunction with William-Lescren Developments Ltd.

Planning consent has been granted for mainly industrial units with a total area of 80,000 sq. ft. in units from 9,000 sq. ft. The first phase is expected to be ready next June. Rents about £3 a sq. ft. are expected. Tucker Harvey and Associates advised William-Lescren and is letting agent with Pepper Angliss and Yarwood.

Gerald Ely

Secretarial and Non-secretarial
appointments

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Your chance to get into the wine trade and to be the first hand you'll be in the world, professional wine buyers, from France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Germany, and the USA. We will spend £2,500 on a 12-week course in wine buying. Call 01-334 0923, DRAGON CONSULTANTS.

BRIDGE—Small, vibrant, international group of Secretaries, typists, and administrative staff. We are looking for a Secretary to our Managing Director. The job is challenging, varied, and offers a good salary. Call 01-334 0923, DRAGON CONSULTANTS.

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YOUNG SEC
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£4,500
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The Middle East: William Frankel on the choices after Mount Sinai

Common ground or wars and terror?

The second anniversary of President Sadat's portentous visit to Jerusalem was marked last month by an Egyptian ceremony at Mount Sinai glorifying peace—and by violence from Palestinian terrorists directed against Israel.

The Palestinians were demonstrating that the Arab world stands by its 1967 resolution of an negotiation and no peace with Israel. So far, the Egyptian President has stood alone among his peers in his efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute. In an optimistic interview in *The Times*, Mr Sadat prophesied that "it will come sooner or later" and expressed his conviction that the first stage, the autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza, would soon be concluded. But the continuing absence of other Arab negotiators is certainly discouraging.

The possibilities inherent in autonomy were interpreted by Abba Eban, Israel's former Foreign Minister. He has written that "if the government respects its signature of the Camp David accords, it should admit that it has created a clear option for partition" which he amplified on another occasion as meaning "the eventual Arab destiny" of the area. Yet Mr

Begin's divided and faltering Government, even as it negotiates autonomy, has announced an increased programme of settlement in the West Bank almost universally assailed abroad as incompatible with his expressed desire for peace.

Inside Israel, Jewish settlement in the territories occupied as a result of the 1967 war is viewed differently. The numerically very small but disproportionately influential Gush Emunim are the ardent settlers believing in the fulfilment of the biblical promise. These activists see themselves as performing God's will by dwelling in the holy and promised land.

A much larger number of Israelis also support Jewish settlement on different grounds. To them, it is shameful and unprincipled to acquiesce in the proposition that these areas must be "Judeanised". The concept itself is unacceptable and in practice inequitable since Arabs live freely in Israel where they can purchase and own property. Why should not Jews have the same rights in the West Bank, they ask, whatever the future disposition of the territory?

Possibly most Israelis are opposed to the settlements. At the same time, they are in favour of at least

some Israeli defence presence in these buffer zones until real peace arrives with secure and recognized borders. The country is so small that, without some defence in depth, her centres of population would be vulnerable to attack whether by terrorists or regular forces.

Yet however cogent the case that can be made in patient and reasonable discussion, the prevailing reality in the Middle East is of impotence and suspicion. In this atmosphere, Israel's settlement policy and such inept and damaging actions as that against the Mayor of Nablus inevitably fuel Arab fears of Israeli expansionism and promised land.

Mr Begin can be in no doubt that these policies of his Government are alienating Israel's friends abroad and providing ammunition to her enemies. They should be, and are being, forthrightly condemned. But serious and harmful as they are, these are not the issues which are standing in the way of peace; they constitute troublesome and irritating side-shows. The Sinai settlements which Mr Begin vowed would never be relinquished, were returned to Egypt in the peace treaty. Vital oil resources were given up last week. It will be more difficult for Mr Begin to abandon settlements

The Camp David agreements still offer the best possibility of movement in the intractable Middle East

In the West Bank—and conceivably in the Gaza Strip—there is a task to be done. It is not the task of his successor—but all the precedents suggest that Israel would not allow them to obstruct a real settlement were it available.

When the 1974 Arab Summit at Rabat recognized the Palestine Liberation Organization as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinians, it endowed that organization with the power of veto. And the PLO has exercised it by pursuing a wholly negative and uncompromising policy. It will not accept

the United Nations resolutions which call for a negotiated settlement. It does not accept Israel's right to exist, its covenant maintains that only Palestinians have the right to live in the Palestinian state (which is defined to include the State of Israel) together with only those Jews who lived there before 1947.

Apologists for the PLO, offering no credible evidence, claim that this is all rhetoric and that the organization really is moderate. The Israelis can hardly be criticized for failing to take risks with their very existence on the faith that Mr Yasser Arafat and his associates do not mean what they say.

Of course the Palestinians have a case, but what are their aims now? If they do not seek the destruction of Israel, what do they want? Their objectives have never been authoritatively and clearly defined other than in their covenant. The present rigid, unconstructive and violent posture of the PLO, the only available evidence of what they stand for, deepens Israeli apprehension and strengthens the hands of her die-hards.

The same voices applauding doubtful Arab moderation, exhortate Mr Sadat for having broken the united Arab front and

"dismantled" the Middle East. Stability was not a notable characteristic of the region, even before the Sadat initiative and a united front based solely on rejection is hardly better broken.

The Camp David agreements still offer the best possibility of movement in the intractable Middle East scene. Were they to accept the role they have been offered in the negotiations, the Palestinians could at least make some progress towards the realization of their "legitimate rights". Regrettably they have remained resolutely obstructive, as much out of fear of the ruthlessness of the PLO than through support for its policies. The murder of the Imam of Gaza earlier this year because he had been prepared to talk about self-rule with the Israelis has been an effective deterrent to other real moderates.

Because Israel is a free and democratic society, her flaws and wrongdoings are open, not only to the scrutiny of the world but to the investigation of her courts of law and to the often clamorous criticism of her own citizens. Censure of the PLO is less evident partly through ignorance of what transpires in a secretive and fragmented

organization and partly out of reluctance to offend the wielders of terror and, possibly, the weapons. The vast flow of critical information from one side and its virtual absence from the other, has created a public image of Israel as contemptuous, aggressive and arrogant.

That view does not accord with the facts. Israel has demonstrated "negotiated" made concessions, compromises in glaring contrast to the rejectionists. Her willingness to compromise can be tested in future negotiations which two sides are necessary, long as the PLO and the A states which follow the line, refuse to talk, "negotiate" or negotiate. They are the real obstacles to peace. The Israelis, moreover, if intransigent, is bound to intensify Israel's preoccupation with security. The choice in the Middle East was exemplified by the two events on November 19, Mount Sinai, scene of President Sadat's victory and repulse of the 7th Islamic Jihad, symbolizing reconciliation and "common ground".

alternative is the recurrence on a scale of wars and terrorism by the bombing of the Jerusalem bus that same day.

Philip Howard joins in the centenary toasts to Oxford's proud lionesses

The formidable ladies of Somerville

A group of science students at Somerville in 1896. In those days Oxford considered science a dangerous and disreputable subject for men.

Question: what have Margaret Thatcher, Indira Gandhi, and Shirley Williams in common, apart from sex and variegated politics? Put it another way. What is the connection between Iris Murdoch, Eshwar Kantzen, and Margherita Laski? The answer is that they all went to Somerville College, Oxford, that proud nursery of lionesses, which has been celebrating its centenary this year.

Since the outrageous notion got out that women should be permitted to be publicly educated and have careers, the success of Somerville has been conspicuous, constant, and disproportionate. You could say that Somerville was the Balliol of women's colleges. If you wanted to vex Somervillians, since they consider themselves, with some justice, second to none.

There is no such thing as a typical Somervillian. But an untold number of Somervillians turn out to be successful and distinguished. They tend to be independently minded and to query everything; formidably argumentative, a critic might say. For a hundred years now they have been busily inventing politics and other forms of public service to the national advantage.

A century ago a few dons and their wives and sisters decided that Oxford should at last admit the possibility that women were capable of higher education: a revolutionary idea that was catching on at other places such as Cambridge. They formed the Association for Promoting the Higher Education of Women in Oxford, the AEHW for short.

The plan was to arrange lectures and teaching for women, and to provide a "Ladies' Hall" where students from outside Oxford could board and lodge. The association split on that old Oxonian rock of religion. Lady Margaret Hall with nine students was established as the Church of England foundation. Somerville Hall was the undenominational foundation, offering its students freedom from any religious test or obligation.

It was named after Mary Somerville, the queen bee of nineteenth century science: Somerville has always taken



science seriously, even in those days, when Oxford considered science a dangerous and disreputable subject for men.

The two halls opened on October 13, 1879. An early anecdote, precisely illustrates the eternal difference between LHM and Somerville. Miss Shaw Lefevre, the first principal of Somerville, one day had a weep on the shoulder of Miss Wordsworth, her counterpart at LHM, because she found her flock so difficult to control. Miss Wordsworth consoled her: "It is a pity we cannot change places, because I should know how to snub my charges, and mine would not need to be snubbed."

From those brave early days, when women students suffered the double disadvantage of being conspicuous because of their scarcity, and having to have chaperones to lectures, libraries, and laboratories, Somerville has grown.

Women were soon appointed as tutors; but they had no share in management of the college until 1903. Some honourable examinations were opened to women, but a proposal that they should be admitted to de-

grees was decisively rejected. Somerville founded the first research fellowship for women.

In 1920 at last women were admitted to matriculation, degrees, and so on. In 1951 Somerville became the first self-governing women's college in Oxford, and in 1959 a full college of the university. In 1977 the final barricade of discrimination fell: the university restriction on the number of colleges admitting women undergraduates was withdrawn; and all colleges became eligible to take turns in electing proctors.

A century ago the principal of Somerville asked permission for her students to walk in the gardens of St John's College. The president of St John's replied: "Madam, the gardens of this college are dedicated to horticulture, not husbandry. We have come a long and worthy way since then, Somerville has become a national institution."

It has been celebrating its centenary with a Gaudy, a college feast, and a memorial lecture by one of its daughters who has done well, Professor Dorothy Hodgkin, the witch (taken as a complimentary feminine of wizard) on the X-ray crystallographic analysis of the structure of molecules, who won the Nobel Prize for chemistry.

It is sadly significant how many words there are in the English vocabulary for a wise woman, and how few for a wise man. The JCR decided to put on Wyckley's *Love in a Wood* for the celebration; it has the advantage of nine female parts. The principal of Somerville, nervously: "Is it very important, in pure Somerville, to put on *Love in a Wood*?"

Not at all: it's a Restoration comedy.

At the peak of the Gaudy there were 3,000 Somervillians, husbands, and children picnicking in the college gardens. They came from as far apart as California and Auckland, Iceland and South Africa. Somerville's tradition of academic excellence and public service was exemplified by the night of Mrs Margaret Thatcher (who came just as an old Somervillian discussing plutonium with her former tutor, Dorothy Hodgkin, and her former principal, Janet Vaughan.

Somerville has decided to remain at present a college exclusively for women, while all around it Oxford colleges are about to go co-educational. One thing women have been in the vanguard of, is the comparatively short time. For another, there is the family pride in the achievements of Somervillians over the past century.

Mrs Barbara Craig, the principal, says that applicants for undergraduate places will be that in a mixed university there are advantages in belonging to a single-sex college: "A mixed college, I am assured, is likely to be an inveterate place where the men will expect you not to look beyond your own college. If you are in a single-sex college, you will certainly make friends within it; but you will also be bound to look outside as well, and to become much more part of the university."

Whether Somerville can persist in going its own way while other colleges disregard gender remains to be seen. But the pioneer of the outrageous notion that women are also people and can be educated has become a glory of its university.

Eric Heffer

Why Labour must think again after Strasbourg

The vote cast by Labour's Euro-MPs against the budget at Strasbourg last week raises important questions for the Labour Party regarding the role of its Euro-MPs. It also clearly indicates the future direction of the assembly, which is undoubtedly becoming a powerful European Community institution as the Council of Ministers.

Labour's Euro-MPs manifesto states "The EEC assembly is not a real Parliament. It is largely a consultative body. We believe it should remain so." It accepted that the assembly has partial control over the Community budget with the sledgehammer power, which it is unlikely to use, of dismissing the Commission as a whole. It further stated "the Labour Party is firmly opposed to any extension of these powers". The Tory Euro manifesto also said that it would support the section in the treaty that prevents the Parliament from adding to its powers unilaterally.

Although these are the views of the two major British political parties, the reality is that Mrs Thatcher is expected to sit around Strasbourg with our using their collective strength. It was precisely because an elected Euro-assembly would demand and ultimately achieve more power, slowly moving towards becoming a real Parliament, that the Labour Party rightly opposed direct elections.

Direct elections, however, have been held, Euro-MPs have been elected and, as last week's vote proves, are increasingly using their powers, with the Federalists among them seeking to extend these so that in future they can exert a more effective control over the Commission and the Council of Ministers.

Had Labour's Euro-MPs kept strictly to the spirit of Labour's manifesto, they would either have voted for the budget, or abstained. They did neither, and in my view, they were right. Since these Labour Euro-MPs explain back in Britain that although the budget was detrimental to the interests of the British people, they had voted for it because of a section of Labour's Euro-manifesto.

Following the rejection of the budget by the Euro-MPs, which has undoubtedly caused a serious crisis in Community affairs, and taking into con-

It is essential for Labour to examine its attitude to Europe and the EEC

sideration Mrs Thatcher's lack of success in Dublin, it is a pity that Labour now demand Britain's withdrawal from the EEC. This is an understandingly increasing demand, and if Mrs Thatcher fails to get her way, or retreats from the firm stand she has taken, it will gather even more momentum.

Before Labour reaches the stage of demanding withdrawal from the EEC, however, there are important preliminary steps that could be taken to achieve our aims. The trouble is, that Mrs Thatcher is making the same mistakes as her Labour predecessors. She has said that her Ministers and civil servants will continue to attend Community committees and totally reject "the empty chair" concept. No doubt her argument is that one can be just as awkward by attending meetings than by being absent. That is a fallacious argument.

If Britain refused to attend meetings, except Summit meetings, conducted in "empty chairs", the empty chair would be a policy as old as Gaul, and at the same time refused to pay further budget contributions, taxes, etc, until the conventions issues were resolved, no progress would be made. Britain would either be expelled from the EEC.

I should make it clear that although against the Community as it stands at present, I am not anti-European and never have been. There is a danger, however, that because of the present EEC disagreements, Britain and even the Labour Party could withdraw into a shell of chauvinistic nationalism.

Paradoxically, a firm stand by Britain now for the changes it desires could actually begin the transformation of the Community from a rich man's

association into a more egalitarian community. The next important step the Labour Party is to examine in depth all the alternatives the EEC. Can Britain with changing patterns of trade, resulting from its membership of the EEC, with the loss of Commonwealth preference, seriously regain the market had in the past? We could thus become totally dependent on the US States, or unhealthily tied to the Eastern European Communist block.

There is, however, a rarely owned alternative, in a grouping of Europeans slowly moving towards a community based upon democratic socialist concepts. Such a grouping could reject both bureaucratic communism and bridled free enterprise. It would, of course, be Utopian, but I believe that this could be attained overnight. It will be a hard and long road to travel.

However, the movement towards democratic socialism, gaining strength and could even prosper if social reached agreement with Euro-communists who are undoubtedly moving too far away from Soviet hegemony. Labour may well decide Britain's future is outside EEC. It is certainly right to demand that Westminster's full powers be restored, even if that should happen will not be able to turn its back completely on Europe, because we are essentially part of Europe and increasingly so.

European industrial and economic integration develops. The trade unions of Europe are increasingly joining together to protect their members from the policies of the multinational companies. Euro-socialists are also having work "out" common political action across national frontiers. The Labour Party can turn its back on European socialist allies and strengthen its link with the Church, which opposes the use of the Community by NATO.

It is essential for Labour to examine closely its attitude to Europe and the EEC. It is a time when the Labour Party must decide whether it is a party of peace and progress or a party of the past.

The author is, Labour MP, Liverpool, Walton. © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1979

NEW YORK DIARY

The argument here last week over television news coverage of Iran bears similarities to the disputes in Britain about reporting the IRA and the interview with Mr Anthony Blunt. The issue is whether people who have offended against accepted norms of decency should be allowed a public forum for arguing their case.

Here is focused on an interview which reporters from the National Broadcasting Company (NBC) had in Tehran with Corporal William Gallegos, one of the hostages in the United States Embassy. As a condition of being allowed the interview, NBC had to let the Iranian student public relations officer make an eight-minute statement and agree that it would be aired in "prime time"—the most watched mid-evening hours.

Administration officials criticized NBC's acceptance of those conditions, variations of which the two other national networks had rejected. Mr Jody Powell, the President's press secretary, accused NBC of being party to a "cruel and very cynical" attempt to divert the attention of the American public from the illegal seizure of the hostages.

A curious charge seeing that an interview with the hostage was the highlight of the broadcast. A Congressman suggested that the network be given "the Benedict Arnold award for broadcasting"—in memory of a notable traitor in the American War of Independence. Mr

Thomas O'Neill, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, said the interview and statement were "regrettable and dangerous" and that President Carter, with whom he had discussed it, agreed.

Mr Walter Cronkite, a veteran news-reader for the Columbia Broadcasting System, explained that his network had refused conditions made by the Iranians for a similar interview in which questions would have had to be cleared by a committee of the students. (NBC said it did not have to submit its questions in advance.)

The students holding the embassy are stepping up the use of the hostages to promote their cause," said Mr Cronkite in a news broadcast.

Mr William Rusher, a conservative commentator, in a discussion on NBC, pointed out that freedom of speech did not include the freedom to cry "fire" in a crowded theatre. He thought the interview might have similarly perilous consequences for the hostages. Mr Fred Friendly, former president of CBS News, disagreed with him and believed that the public had been well served by the broadcast.

That view was not shared by at least one NBC reporter, Mr Ford Rowan of the network's Washington bureau, who resigned to show his disapproval of it.

In the interview, Corporal Gallegos said that he and the 30 Americans confined with

him had been treated fairly well. This was seen as an unnecessary propaganda point for the Iranians, but to balance that, as Mr Friendly pointed out, he did give information about conditions which had not previously been available.

What angers the Administration most is that their own officials have been unable to make contact with Iranian ministers, with the hostages, or with the students who hold them. Yet such contacts are regularly made by members of the international press. "Television diplomacy," they call it.

Mr Sadegh Ghotbzadeh, the Iranian foreign minister, is hardly ever available to representatives of the US Government, but he gives a press conference almost daily in which he denounces and threatens the United States. This is regularly reported in newspapers and on television.

It is understandable that a president whose overriding concern is to free the hostages safely should feel irritated when others insert into the debate matters, sometimes embarrassing, which he believes do not bear directly on that object.

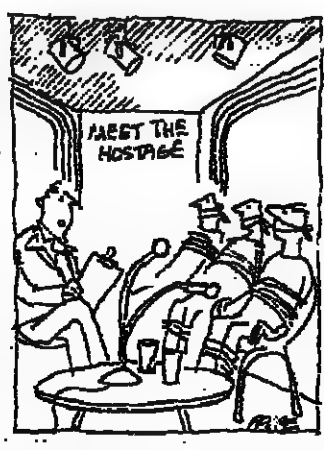
That is why his endorsement denounced Senator Edward Kennedy, his main rival in next year's presidential election, who dared to refer to the Shah's questionable record in office and wondered whether he should have been allowed to come here for medical treatment.

The view that certain topics should be declared off limits at times of crisis appears to be popularly held. To judge from the President's progress in the opinion polls, at Mr Kennedy's expense, since that controversy. A persuasive argument against it, though, came last week from Mr Arthur Schlesinger, a former special assistant to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson.

He wrote that one of the lessons of Vietnam was that it is precisely during international crises that public discussions are most needed. "The cry of national unity has been used before to cut off debate and to conceal error. Democracy is not something to be suspended in an emergency."

Journalists in a free society equally believe that it is their task to help people understand conflicts—even conflicts involving the national interest—by exposing the views of all protagonists. They do not have to act as though they were an extension of the Government.

The Iranian have, since the taking of the hostages, become just as exploiting the journalistic view of their role. Outside the United States embassy in Tehran, students shout maniacally and shake their fists when the cameras are switched on. The effect is highly visual, irresistible to a cameraman, and its constant repetition on our television screens does have a cumulative effect, in spite of the fact that the commentators



are meticulous in pointing out that it is staged for our benefit.

Before the interview with Corporal Gallegos, Mr Hodding Carter, a spokesman for the State Department, told a private audience at Princeton that the earlier interview conducted by all three networks with the Ayatollah Khomeini probably made things worse for the hostages. Mr Carter maintained that the Ayatollah had vowed to place the hostages on trial only after being pressed by reporters: had they not questioned him on the matter he might never have said it and would not thus feel compelled to carry out his threat.

Another Administration official accused television reporters of asking "soft" questions of the Iranians and failing to press them hard enough about the

conditions in which the hostages are being held. Mr William Small, president of NBC News, replied: "I'm sure the people at the State Department wish they could do more to help, but we're not going to get out of the business of informing the American people. Our guys are not there to debate the Iranians. They're there to elicit information."

This is the kind of defence elicited by the BBC and others when accused of being soft on the IRA. Some people outside the news media regard the argument as self-serving, not to mention pompous. (Paradoxically, these same critics are often the most vocal in objecting to "trial by television" when the person being asked the loaded questions is a "respectable" politician or businessman.)

In the case of Mr Blunt, the newspapers who were arbitrarily excluded from the gourmet Press conference in *The Times* boardroom objected partly on the ground that their reporters would have asked more aggressive questions than the allegedly over-respectable scribes from *The Times* and *The Guardian*.

Maybe they wanted to confront him fearlessly with the charge that he was a disgusting traitor, and what did he feel about it? Such self-righteous tactics would have made every one (except Mr Blunt) feel splendid, but, as Louis Heren pointed out on this page a few days later, they would not have

elicited any useful information. Yet it would be unrealistic for a reporter to attempt to sustain the position that he is not there to do anything other than the task of recording events as they influence on the way in which those events unfold. The messenger does tamper with the message, especially if he or she is carrying a camera and microphone.

The chanting Tehran students provide one example but there are others every day on television news bulletins: albeit of a more trivial nature. During the past week we have been suffering here from the Long Island railroad, the largest and in the view of those who use it, the least adequate commuter-railway in the country.

Television has well-earned reprimands for reporting such events. Helicopters make pictures of bumper-bumper traffic jams on the roads, from Long Island into the city. Reporters are dispatched to underground stations, the special car parks and the pick-up points for emergency buses. On the first couple of days the snarl-ups were nowhere near as bad as had been predicted. They scarcely could have been. With seven local television stations competing for viewers, the news goes to the one who can make the most fertile forecast of impending chaos and doom.

In the interest of truth, then, the reporters had to make the

rush hour travel had been a paralyzing plain nightmare. They clearly understood that doing so they might be making things worse, by, say, discouraging commuters from continuing to leave home early to stagger through.

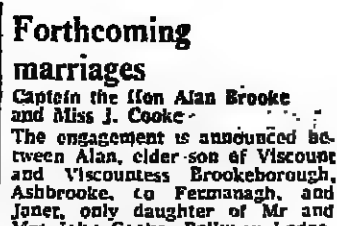
So they felt constrained to add a warning that although things were not as bad as might be, people should close to be on their guard not all try to drive over Queensborough bridge at 11 past eight.

Television has been trying to report Iran using the same guidelines as it uses to report the rail strike—giving the way company, the unions, the travelling public, approximately equal time. Those are the only rules the broadcast know and they try to obey them even if sometimes it makes them look a little ridiculous.

When journalists defend Press they are suspected, if unfairly, of conflict of interest. Looking then, for an observation from an impartial witness to round off this column, I stumbled across the author of one of the best journalistic pieces on freedom, Thomas Jefferson.

"Were it left to me," wrote he to decide whether I should have a government without a newspaper, or newspaper without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

Michael Leapor



**Captain the Hon Alan Brooke
and Miss J. Cooke**
The engagement is announced between Alan, elder son of Viscount and Viscountess Brookeborough, Ashbrooke, Co Fermanagh, and Juner, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Cooke, of Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare.

هكذا في الأصل

... ..

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The Times Obituaries Supplement: 4

On November 16, 19 and 23 *The Times* published an Obituaries Supplement in three parts. A further selection of some notable careers appears today. This completes the series



DON SALVADOR DE MADARIAGA

Internationalist and man of many parts

Don Salvador de Madariaga, Spanish former political writer and historical, died on December 14, 1979, in Locarno, Switzerland. He was 92. His many-sided man, born in 1887, was the son of Don de Madariaga, a colonel in the Spanish army, and began as an engineer. He was later at the Instituto del General Caceres, Madrid, and College Chaplain and Ecole technique, in Paris, and was an adviser to the Superintendent of the Line of the Iberian Peninsula. He was a natural gift—asserted themselves early, and while still a student at the Polytechnic in 1911 to 1916, he became known as a journalist and a writer in Spain and France. In 1916 to 1922 he lived in London, entirely as a writer, took an active interest in the League of Nations, and when the League was formed, became one of the original members of the secretariat, as Secretary of the League of Nations.

The first attempt at a League of Nations, as it was known, was a failure, and he was succeeded by Robert Cecil, who gave the League its full representation. Madariaga's knowledge as an insider, as well as an accomplished writer in at least three lan-

guages, gave him a special value in this work. But military opinion was too strong, and in 1927 the commission was dissolved, and in 1928 Madariaga was elected to the newly created King Alfonso XIII Chair of Spanish Studies in Oxford, which was attached to Exeter College, of which he later became an Honorary Fellow. In 1931 he again changed his profession, and became Spanish Ambassador, first to the USA, and then to France (1932-1934).

In 1931 he was appointed Permanent Spanish Delegate to the League, to show the country's permanent attitude to the League, irrespective of party. In this capacity he drew up a full and well-considered statement of Spanish policy, which was promptly attacked by some of the Left Republicans and made a grievance against the Foreign Minister. The Minister denied all knowledge of the paper, and repudiated Madariaga's policy, whereupon Madariaga produced the copy which had been sent to the Minister, and signed by him as a token of approval. Madariaga resigned from the Government, and since the Franco rebellion, with which he could not sympathise, broke out soon afterwards, he was left in the middle of a civil war, an object of hatred to both parties. Both would shoot me, he wrote from Paris, and one from behind.

Deprived of his estate and all

his property, as well as of all his offices, he returned to Oxford, which, for the rest of his life, became his home—or, rather, his base; for, as an established leader of thought in Europe, and the standard-bearer of the cultured liberal opposition, which was, at that time, exiled or persecuted everywhere in Europe, he was in constant demand as a lecturer in every part of the civilised world. He travelled everywhere, as indefatigable in his sixties and seventies as other men half his age. He was undaunted in his vicissitudes, and, in life as in argument, being driven into a corner was a challenge to fight his way out of it. A man of utter integrity, he stimulated even the dullest by the vigour of his paradox, and there have been few more exciting talkers or more lively raconteurs.

Honours rained upon him from, for instance, Portugal, the United States of America, France, China, Czechoslovakia, Mexico. In political work, he became President of the International Liberal Movement and the Congress for Freedom and Culture, and a leading member of the Cultural Section of the League of Nations. He was also the European Centre of Culture at Geneva. Funds he no doubt might have had, but would not accept; and it was

not easy, in the first years of his exile, to give a full life to his family, by nothing but writing and lecturing. He wrote in English, Spanish and French; the Spanish books sold most until forbidden, first in Spain, and then, gradually, in those South American countries which wished to be on good terms with Spain. He wrote essays on English and Spanish Poetry, on *Humanism*, and on *Don Quixote* (1920), on *Spanish Folklore*, on the *Genius of Spain* (1923), on *Englishmen*, *Frenchmen*, *Spaniards*, (1928), and, later, on *Americans*, (1930); *Anarchy or Hierarchy*, (1937); *Theory and Practice in International Relations*, (1938); *The World's Design*, (1938); *Other books were works of historical research—The Rise of the Spanish American Empire*, (1947); *The Fall of the Spanish American Empire*, (1947); *Bohemia*, (1952). Of his many lively novels, *The Heart of Jade*, (1944), translated into a number of foreign languages, was the most successful.

One must not forget his witty and delightful lectures, or his frequent contributions to the higher press of England, America, France, and Spanish America.

In 1912 he married Constance Archibald, who shared to the full his cheerful integrity. There were two daughters of the marriage.

Sir Kenneth Robson



Sir Kenneth Robson, who died on December 7, 1979, at the age of 69, was Registrar to the Royal College of Physicians of London from 1961 to 1975, during one of its most important periods when, in addition to moving from its old home in Trafalgar Square to its new home in Regent's Park, its activities were expanding rapidly in the field of postgraduate education and it was becoming increasingly involved in the complex relationships between State and Medicine.

It was Sir Kenneth's administrative gifts that allowed the college to undertake this metamorphosis for such it was metaphorically if not literally, with the utmost of ease.

At the same time he was one of the leading London consultants in the discipline of chest, with appointments on the staff at St. George's Hospital and the Brompton Hospital. Never, however, did he allow himself to become a narrow specialist, and his reputation stood high as an undergraduate teacher at St. George's Hospital.

His standing as a clinician, counsellor and administrator stood equally high in the Royal Air Force, in which he served as a medical specialist in this country and in India from 1939 to 1949. From 1949 to 1977 he was Civil Consultant in Medicine to the RAF. Such was his reputation that in 1977 he was appointed honorary Air Commodore to RAF Central Medical School, a post of honour which he held until his death.

In 1959, on behalf of the Colonial Office he made a tour of medical establishments in the Caribbean. Four years later he was Visiting Professor at the University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica. He was also a consultant to King Edward VII Hospital for Officers and King Edward VII Hospital, Middlesbrough. It was typical of many of his many parts, who could pack so much into the twenty-four hours without any apparent effort that in *Who's Who* he should record his recreation as "pottering about".

He was born in 1909 and educated at Bedford, Christ's College, Cambridge, and the Middlesex Hospital, where he qualified in 1933. He was appointed C.B.E. in 1959 and knighted in 1968.

Mr Anatoli Kuznetsov

Mr Anatoli Kuznetsov, the Russian author who left the Soviet Union to live in Britain nine years ago, died on June 14 at the age of 49. Kuznetsov was perhaps best known for his novel, *Babi Yar*, a graphic account of events which took place in the Ukraine after the German occupation of Kiev in 1941. In the book Kuznetsov, a boy of 12 living in the Ukrain-

ian village of Kurenivka at the time of the German invasion, recounted the details of large-scale massacres carried out by German forces in the region, in which 70,000 Jews were herded to the now infamous ravine of Babi Yar on the outskirts of Kiev, stripped and thrown down by gunfire. Later the Soviet authorities erected a dam at one end of the ravine but this burst in 1961 with heavy loss of life among local inhabitants.

The Soviet Government did not see fit to erect a memorial to the victims of the massacre, and to expunge reference to the second catastrophe from Soviet history, but Kuznetsov reconstructed the episode in vivid detail in his book which was published in 1966 in the magazine *Yuzhny*, then edited by Yevgeny Yevushenko, himself the author of a poem of the same title. Soviet authorities had already micro-filmed the unexpurgated book and buried the film.

At the propaganda offensive against Russian authors critical of the regime heightened he found his position increasingly difficult and in 1969 managed to get permission to come to Britain where he sought asylum. The expurgated *Babi Yar* had been published in an English translation in 1967 but with Kuznetsov's arrival with the micro-film, a new translation was possible and this appeared in 1970.

A later novel, *The First*, dealt with the Russian labour situation in terms that were not calculated to quarrel with the tenets of Socialist Realism and Kuznetsov also published (with G. Stein) several plays and wrote a number of short stories.

Mr Rupert Croft-Cooke

Mr Rupert Croft-Cooke, BEM, who died on June 10, at the age of 75, was one of the most versatile and prolific writers of his time. In his early years he was a writer of detective stories, and his later years were devoted to a wide range of subjects from darts to wine, travel books, plays, poetry and polemics; and under another name a large number of popular detective stories as well. It was however in his numerous volumes of autobiography that his talents were best displayed—his easy, vivid style of writing, his dry and sometimes abrasive wit and above all his ability to convey the essence of the period and place about which he wrote. Although none of his books achieved the success of a best-seller, he is likely to be assured of a lasting place in English literature both as a recorder of events and as a commentator on the events and attitudes of his generation.

He was born at Edenbridge in Kent on June 20, 1903. His father was a London stockbroker of conventional views, and it was partly perhaps as a reaction to his upbringing and the expectations of his parents that Croft-Cooke sought from an early age to establish his own identity through unorthodox behaviour and beliefs. These led to his removal from two public schools before he completed his education at Wellington, now Wrexham College, Salop. Eschewing opportunities of more regular employment, he tried to earn his living as a freelance journalist in Argentina and in the Bohemian fringes of London and later as a bookseller in Kent, while he made his first tentative essays in literature, and slowly and sometimes painfully learnt the ways of publishers and agents. It was during this period that he left the Church of England and became a Roman Catholic.

After a series of well-reviewed but unprofitable poems and plays, the comparative success of his novel *Night Owl* in 1932 persuaded Croft-Cooke that writing might after all provide him with the way of life he wanted and the means to afford it. He travelled widely, often in the company of circus people, and produced a number of novels, of which *Shoulder the Sky* was outstanding, and the first of his many admirable volumes of autobiography. He also edited *Major Road Ahead*, a collection of essays by his contemporaries of various creeds and philosophies explaining why they would fight Fascism wherever it appeared. He joined the army on the outbreak of war and was posted to the

Intelligence Corps in 1940. He earned the BEM in Madagascar and rose from the ranks to obtain a commission as a Field Security Officer in India.

He returned to England in 1946 and continued to write novels and slices of autobiography based mainly on his own experience and travels with gypsies. Some were better received than others but in 1953 *Harvest Moon* reestablished his reputation as a serious writer. In the same year however he was sent to prison for homosexual offences. He left England soon afterwards and eventually settled in Tangier where he lived for the next 15 years. He flourished in this relaxed and cosmopolitan atmosphere, and it was here that he did much of his best work, producing for a time as many as five books a year. Among his successes were *Bosnie*, a study of Lord Alfred Douglas, and *Feasting with Panthers*, several well-informed and imaginative books on wine and cooking, some excellent novels about the world of crime like *Clash by Night* and *Paper Albatross*, and a particularly happy string of further volumes of autobiography from *The Tangerine House* in 1956 to *Happy Highways* in 1967.

Although he left Tangier in 1969 and was on the move for some years searching unsuccessfully for another congenial home abroad, he continued his large and varied output of books and it was during this period that his *Unrecorded Life of Oscar Wilde* was published. In 1973 he abandoned his exotic search and settled in Bourne-mouth where, to his happy surprise, he discovered that life in England had few disadvantages and more delights than he had supposed. Here he continued writing, and among his later works were several more volumes of autobiography, culminating in a final volume, *The Green Green Grass*, in 1977.

Croft-Cooke was discerning collector of books and English watercolours, and a collector of more predictable and unpredictable friends, some of whom perhaps will remember him as much for his gay, debonair charm and mordant wit as for the astonishing range and quality of his books.

Lord MacDermott

Lord MacDermott, PC, who died on July 13 at the age of 83, had been Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland from 1951 to 1971. He had previously, after a brilliant career at the Bar and on the Bench in Ulster, been a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary from 1947, until he resigned to take up the office which he had held until his death.

John Clarke MacDermott was the son of the late Rev John MacDermott and was born on April 12, 1896. He was educated at Campbell College, Belfast, where he was a foundation scholar in 1914. Then came the war, when he served as a lieutenant in the 51st Battalion of the MGC, and was awarded the Military Cross. On returning to his University, he took First Class Honours in law and his LL.B. and he was later Lecturer in jurisprudence there from 1931 to 1935. He was called to the Bar at the King's Inns, Dublin, in 1921, after having been Victoria Prize winner in an exhibition. He attained a large practice and by the time he took silk in 1936, he was perhaps the leading practitioner in Northern Ireland. In 1934, he was elected Unionist MP for Queen's University, Belfast, and he was appointed Senior Crown Prosecutor in Belfast. From June 1941 to November 1941 he was Minister of Public Security for Northern Ireland, and he was Attorney General there from 1941 to 1944, when on the death of Mr Justice Brown he was raised to the Bench, where he was an outstanding success. He was made a Privy Councillor of Northern Ireland.

In April 1947, Lord Wright terminated his long career as a Judge by resignation at his post as a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, and rather to the surprise of the profession, Mr Justice MacDermott was appointed to fill the vacancy.

His subsequent career was again something of a surprise. In February 1951 Sir James Andrews, the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, died, and the following month it was announced that Lord MacDermott had been appointed to succeed him, so he returned to the country where he had made his name and fame. He was also Pro-Chancellor of the University of Belfast, who died on September 13, at the age of 82, was from 1970 in 1957, chairman of the Cotton Board.

He had all his life been an outstanding figure in the administration of industry, but especially textiles. In more than 40

Mr Colin Duncan

Mr Colin Duncan, QC, MC, who died on July 14 at the age of 83, was one of this country's leading defamation lawyers, and had acted as counsel in some notable libel cases over the past few years.

Born on October 3, 1895, Peter Colin Duncan was educated at Rugby and served during the First World War with the Queen's Royal Regiment, being awarded his MC in 1918. He was at Trinity College, Oxford, and became a barrister in 1923. During the Second World War he held staff appointments as a Lieutenant-Colonel. He was Recorder of Bury St Edmunds from 1949 to 1953, and of Norwich from 1963 to 1968. He became Master of the Bench, Inner Temple, in 1960.

Among his many notable libel briefs were those in which he defended unsuccessfully, David Irving, the author of *The Destruction of Concom P017* against a libel action brought by Captain Jack Braine, commander of the country's Royal Navy escort. He also represented Mr Edward Maximilian Prchal, the pilot of the aircraft in which the Polish Prime Minister, General Sikorski, was killed, when the former received substantial damages for libel in Rolf Hochhuth's play, *Soldiers*.

In 1953 he published (with Anthony Hoolahan) *Guide to Defamation Practice*.

There was no more popular member of the Bar than Duncan. He was an exceptionally able lawyer and would have risen to the top of his profession in any field and it was in a sense a misfortune that he was so pre-eminent in the field of defamation that practice in other branches of the law were often denied to him.

There are inevitably some advocates against whom it is pleasant to experience a defeat rather than against others. Colin Duncan was an opponent against whom it was always a pleasure to appear. He was always scrupulously fair and set an example in the whole Bar as to the manner in which to do things, which could be done in his clients' interest without getting involved in those altercations with opponents which sometimes happen and which do nothing to assist either the client or the court.

Brig Herbert Le Patourel, VC

Brigadier Herbert Wallace Le Patourel, VC, DL, who was awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery in action in Tunisia in 1942, died on September 4 at the age of 63. Le Patourel won his VC for bravery during an attack on German machine gun positions in Reboura, Tunisia, during intense fighting. It was assumed he had been killed and the award was made posthumously but it was later discovered he had been made a prisoner of war and he was released from Italy after the capitulation in 1943.

He returned to service with the army, where he remained until his retirement in 1952, one of his posts being deputy commander of the Ghanaian Army in 1960-61.

Sir Raymond Streat

Sir Raymond Streat, CBE, who died on September 13, at the age of 82, was from 1970 in 1957, chairman of the Cotton Board.

He had all his life been an outstanding figure in the administration of industry, but especially textiles. In more than 40

Philip Hope-Wallace

Philip Hope-Wallace, CBE, died in London on September 13, aged 67, was a critic of arts as wise and searching as any in his time. A specialist in theatre and opera—very opera alone—all his work fuelled by an informed sense that his attractively and personality never cooled.

He enjoyed good talk, and was (as a friend put it) "idly had been the original reason of his consciousness". Nothing it appeared, would risk off a memory, an allusion, a comparison, or an aphorism. He was a man of few words, but when he spoke, it was with the kind of amusing, unloped that in Maugham's case—leaped the loop on a huge and came down by a sense of the absurd. His sense of the absurd, with its individual emphases and transgressions, did lighten all he said, though the years he seemed to talk his notices on paper, by morning, leading on the previous night's opera; one could hear the cise tones of his voice, the rhythmic, the deceptively casual style in which he expressed judgments that were incisive, perceptive, and often formidably dité.

The best critic, he suggested, "will be the same of the best part of any audience its head, heart, and soul." And again: "The thing of history may be as active as the making of it. It is an interpretation of it." Certainly Hope-Wallace died in the life of the theatre until he found himself, late in life, out of sympathy with many of the new dramas and with themes alien to his fastidious mind. Until then was a conspicuous figure at first night, balancing (said none) both chin and hands to his inevitable brella.

Thereafter he became one of those perceptive critics of his day. His gift for turning up a performance, or singer in a succinct phrase, was unequalled, and although pen could be wicked, it was never cruel. His sympathies were wide, but he was most responsive to the world of Puccini and French opera. In his criticisms he exhib-

ited his vast knowledge of language, literature and music, not in a show-off sense but to enlighten his writings with the most fitting words he could find. His broadcasting was as much a part of his life as his writing, and for years he adorned such old regulars as *The Critics* and *Musical Magazine*, while summing up in a pointed phrase the whole play or recording. The voice was the incarnation of gregariousness and spontaneity. As in his personal relationships the feeling of bonhomie, which was the joy of his friends, in Fleet Street was laced with a sardonic manner, reminiscent about not precisely the good old days, but times when character and personality were important than mere efficiency, or indeed the lack of it.

Besides writing for *The Guardian*, he contributed for 15 years to the *Gramophone* magazine, was on the board of *Opera*, and wrote for various other papers where his recollections of times past were as often as revealing as they were hilarious. He will be missed in many circles, nowhere more so than in the opera house, where he was once heard to utter as he seated himself for another Wagner opera: "Here we are, again—weeping and sleeping. Stage historians will value his newspaper reviews, but his only published books were *A Key to Opera*, with Frank Rowes (1939) and *A Picture History of Opera* (1958). His work on the theatre, daily reviews apart, made be sought in occasional miscellanies.

Irresistible in conversation that he seemed to score musically as he spoke, besides being a familiar radio voice, he was a good lecturer, always a speaker with a sense of occasion—as in his moving address at the memorial service for the late Y. Cookman, drama critic of *The Times*. He could not settle to the long haul of a book and its problems; he preferred to take the fleeting moment, and he did so with a success that he matched, especially towards the end, in some of his discursive newspaper essays, recreating an unfathomable art.

Born on November 6, 1911, he was educated at Charterhouse and Balliol, and in 1934 worked in France for the International Broadcasting Company. From 1935-1939 he was a Correspondent of *The Times*, and during the war a press officer attached to the Air Ministry. After the war his talents developed in his criticism of drama and music

for *Time and Tide* (1945-59); of successive radio, drama and television for *The Listener*; and during 33 years of theatre and opera for *The Guardian* (both from 1946-71; thereafter opera alone). He broadcast frequently on the arts.

In 1958 he was President of the Critics' Circle. He was appointed CBE in 1975.

Sir Robert Cary

Sir Robert Cary, first baronet, who had been Conservative MP for the Wiltshire division of Manchester from 1951 to 1974, and was previously member for Eccles, died on October 2, He was 81.

Cary was one of the old school of Conservative backbenchers. In a long parliamentary career, the only Government appointment he ever held was that of a Lord Commissioner of the Treasury (Government Whip) in the short-lived Conservative "caretaker" government of 1945. But he was an indefatigable Parliamentary Private Secretary to successive ministers, with his finger ever on the pulse of the House of Commons in all its moods, an amiable gossip and a friendly personality, well liked by people of all parties. He was vexed by no heady ambition and appeared quite happy in the role of a senior and respected backbencher, ever loyal to the party establishment, and to all the best traditions of the House. He was honoured with a knighthood, and later with a baronetcy.

Robert Archibald Cary was born on May 25, 1898, the son of Robert Cary, and was educated at Ardingly and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Like other young men of his generation, his youth was scarred by the First World War. He left the fifth form at school to take a shortened course at Sandhurst, and was serving as a subaltern in the Somerset Light Infantry when he was 18. He continued to serve in the 4th Dragoon Guards for seven years after the war, and held staff appointments while serving in Iraq and north Persia. For a year he was ADC to Major-General Sir George Cary, commanding the British forces in

north Persia, and was later personal assistant to Sir Laurence Russell in the Political Department of the Government of India. Before leaving the army, in 1924, Cary was married to the Hon. Rosemary Mary Curzon, daughter of Colonel the Hon. Alfred Nathaniel Curzon, and sister of the second Viscount Scarsdale.

In 1935 he entered Parliament as Conservative member for Eccles, and became Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Civil Lord of the Admiralty. As a Lancashire member, Cary was keenly concerned about the decline of the cotton industry, and was active in bringing together all the interests concerned in the legislation for the industry's reorganisation. When the Second World War began he at once rejoined his old regiment, and again served in Europe, having been re-appointed to the General Staff. He later resumed his parliamentary duties, and from 1942-44 he was Parliamentary Private Secretary to Leopold Amery, then Secretary of State for India, after which he was appointed to be an unpaid Assistant Whip. In Churchill's "caretaker" government, he succeeded the wartime coalition. Cary was given full status as a junior Conservative Whip (a Lord Commissioner of the Treasury), but at the General Election of 1945 he lost his seat at Eccles to a Labour opponent. He received a knighthood in the "resignation" honours.

In the same year, Cary contested, unsuccessfully, a by-election at Ashton-under-Lyne, and at the General Election of 1950, he again failed to get back to Parliament when he contested Central Nottingham. When the electoral tides turned in favour of the Conservatives again at the General Election of 1951, he got back to the House of Commons as Conservative member for Wiltshire, and was able to renew his political association with Lancashire. He was then given a baronetcy.

On his return to Westminster Cary was appointed Parliamentary Private Secretary to Mr Harry Crookshank, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House, a niche which suited him admirably, and he continued these duties for four years. At three succeeding general elections he was re-elected for his Manches-

ter seat with comfortable majorities, but at the general election of 1966 he was re-elected by a majority reduced to 647. It was characteristic of him that when he reached his seventieth birthday in 1968 Cary celebrated the event over a period of three days by entertaining groups of political colleagues and friends to lunch or dinner at the House of Commons. He was a director of transport and other companies.

The heir to the baronetcy is Mr Roger Hugh Cary, who was born on January 8, 1926.

In 1937, Pfeiffer left Germany; his wife was Jewish, but in any case he could hardly have remained, since he found it impossible to conceal his disaffection for National Socialism. In London he was first aided by the efforts of Campion Hall, where Martin D'Arcy was then minister; later he became a member of Corpus Christi Col-

ura of glamour from his period underground, the political future seemed bright for P—it was at this time that Petru himself described his friend as a future prime minister. But the right was strengthening in Congress and the socialists felt that JP had formed within it was forced out in 1948. The socialists began

ere steadily elusive. To the
ast she was a connoisseur's
tress, slightly built, urgent in
otional power, and with a
warm, clear voice that could
xpress any nuance.

No doubt she was most at
ease in tragedy—the rising ten-
sion in the final scenes of her
 Stratford Cleopatra (1935) is

Claude Rogers was a member of the Art Panel of the Arts Council and of the National Council for Diplomas in Art and Design and for a number of years President of the London Group. His work is represented in the Tate Gallery, the British Museum Print Room, the Fitzwilliam, and Ashmolean

governor when already chief secretary of the colony, an unusual sequence. However, he had been chief secretary of a number of other territories and such was used holding the post when governors were away on leave. He performed this function with particular success in British Honduras during a precarious situation in 1954. In

novels, *Gas House McGarity* (1933) was an almost surreal analysis of the future of the business world; a further novel, *Circle* began with *The Silence of History* (1963) returned to city life in Chicago. Certainly Farrell appeared to be in danger of repeating himself in his latter works but the accumulation of detail in which he

to have a decisive influence on the course of his journalistic career. Delmer was educated at St Pauls School and Lincoln College, Oxford, where he read history and modern languages. He joined the staff of the Daily Express in 1927 in Berlin where he was at that time teaching

He married, in 1925, Miss Vera Brittain, the writer. She died in 1970. Besides his distinguished daughter there was a son of the marriage.

He married secondly in 1977, Belinda, widow of Lieutenant Commander Victor Gates.

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...the ...

Where PO went
wrong on
anticipation,
age 19

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Managers of
Commercial Property
Knight Frank & Rutley

Stock markets
FT Index 431.0
FT-GE 55.4

Sterling
£2.1955
Index 69.8

Dollar
Index 55.8

Gold
\$457.00 an ounce

3-month money
Inter-bank 16 1/2 to 16 3/4
Euro-S 14 to 14 1/2
Friday's close

IN BRIEF

Commission likes tough one with hi-fi dealer

The European Commission is set today to announce its findings on the European Community of Pioneer Electronics Corporation of Japan. Its distributors in Europe, Germany and Britain, are being asked to sign a new agreement on free competition. Although a commission spokesman refused to confirm any reports that the fines could total 600 million units, it is understood that the announcement is a warning to mark a new tough attitude by the authorities. The Commission has been criticised for its lax enforcement of EEC law against cartels and its distributors are penalized for operating on exports of hi-fi equipment from Germany and Britain. France that forced up the price of their products on the market.

It appears that the Commission is now prepared to levy a fine of up to 5 per cent of total turnover on companies that break the EEC's free competition rules.

Tile industry fears
Mr Alec Smith, general secretary of the National Union of Builders and Craftsmen, says the clothing industry is fearful of the effects of support and underlining it can expect from the Government. Mr Smith, who led a TUC delegation to the industry and trade unionists, says that recent moves by the Government to encourage confidence of an industry "reeling from the blow" of a 15 per cent value added tax to 15 per cent.

Shipping output to fall
Shipping contractors must cut two years, according to forecasts published by the industry's Economic Development Committee. This is a downturn, put at 3 per cent of output, is expected to come into effect in the following year.

New deposits move
A Canton branch of the Bank of China has started to accept deposits from foreigners, overseas Chinese and Chinese in Hong Kong and Macao, the official news agency reports.

Tax relief defended
Concessions on company tax should be retained, according to submissions made by the industry to the Inland Revenue. The LCCI says in its submission to the Inland Revenue's committee on the subject that "reality must dictate that certain fringe benefits are to be brought within the system."

Ships order
European Ferries has ordered the lighter-than-air craft for development by the company, which estimates a market of 500-600 such aircraft to be sold in the next 10 years at £6m and £7m each.

Arabs buy 11 planes
Udi Arabia has bought 11 aircraft, six 747 jumbo jets and five TriStars, to operate on routes to the Far East and United States. The new fleet will boost the airline's fleet to 70.

Iran oil find
Iran's search for onshore oil has been boosted by the discovery of a new oilfield in the Arabian Sea, about 50 miles south-west of Bombay. It is estimated to contain 60 to 70,000 barrels a day.

Sir John King expected to be named soon as National Nuclear chairman

By Kenneth Owen

Sir John King, chairman of Babcock International, is likely to succeed Lord Aldington, vice-chairman of the General Electric Company, as chairman of the National Nuclear Corporation (NNC) in its revised form, which is expected to be announced by the Government soon.

The effective merging of the parent NNC with the Nuclear Power Corporation, its operating arm, and the abandonment by GEC of its management contract is also expected to be part of the reorganisation of the corporation.

Sir John King's appointment, if confirmed, is unlikely to be met with unanimous enthusiasm by all parts of the nuclear industry because of the Babcock connection. An independent chairman, it is being argued, is a better choice.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, is expected to announce a substantial new nuclear power programme later this week. Some details of the proposed restructuring of the industry may also be included in his statement.

The Department of Energy last night described the report of Sir John King's appointment as "speculation". The timing of the department's announcement on the corporate restructuring appears uncertain, but it seems clear that Sir John is a candidate for the job.

As well as his position as Babcock chairman, Sir John is chairman of British Nuclear Association, the consortium of industrial interests which together hold 35 per cent of the National Nuclear Corporation. The United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority holds 35 per cent, and GEC holds 30 per cent.

These holdings are expected to be unchanged in the NNC reorganisation, at least for now.

Steel bonus offer to avert strike explained
Continued from page 1

First national official stoppage since the general strike of 1926. Peter Hill, writes in *Spectator* of the union leaders' attitude, attempts will be made by the corporation today to secure rank-and-file support for its pay offer to avert the threatened strike.

The corporation's hope of avoiding the strike is based on convincing steelworkers of the additional cash which would be available from a jump in bonus scheme.

Details of the scheme are in an information sheet which will be distributed to the work force this morning.

Senior executives believe that most 150,000 members have not had sufficient opportunity to consider the proposals for the bonus payments. Members of the board who do not consider the strike to be inevitable are anxious to make more decisions with union leaders before the meeting of the executive on Wednesday.

The pay offer bulletin being distributed today outlines the facts behind the decision to cut 52,000 steel-making jobs by next year and to cut the corporation's steel capacity by 6.6 million tonnes to 15 million tonnes.

It also spells out the extent and proposed operation of local productivity deals which could produce increases of up to 10 per cent for improved productivity on top of the 2 per cent consolidation which has been offered nationally.

The 2 per cent consolidation offer, rejected by the BSIC negotiators, would, according to the corporation, add £120 a week to a steelworker on a basic wage of £80 while a man on a basic £120 would get an additional £24.50 shift and overtime payments would also be improved.

But in an interview published in the bulletin, Mr Peter Broxham, the corporation's director of industrial relations, emphasised that the key feature of the corporation's offer was a jump in bonus scheme which it wants to negotiate at works and divisional levels.

Mr Sirs described the productivity element of the corporation's offer as "pie in the sky". He did, however, say that he had asked Sir Charles Vickers, the BSC chairman, to explain how the scheme would work and added: "I will listen."



Sir John King's unanimous endorsement unlikely.

Lord Aldington, on a visit to the United States, was not available for comment last night.

GEC made clear two years ago that it wished to give up the NNC management contract, worth £350,000 a year, despite the fact that this gave it effective control over the Nuclear Power Corporation, the NNC's executive subsidiary. There was a belief, however, that the contract prevented any major decisions being taken without the consent of the Government.

It is understood that GEC now considers the reorganisation including the stepping-down of Lord Aldington and withdrawal from the management contract, to be no more than a change of emphasis. It is felt that by resigning 30 per cent stake in NNC, GEC could be done without GEC's consent.

EEC acts on claim of marine chain dumping
By Our Management Correspondent

Marine anchor chainmakers have had their protests about unfairly priced imports taken up by the EEC Commission in Brussels. After a preliminary survey, which showed prices were far below manufacturing costs, the Commission has opened an anti-dumping investigation of marine anchor chains from Sweden and Spain.

The complaint against marine chain imported at prices estimated at between 20 and 50 per cent cheaper than domestic equivalents was lodged in Brussels by French manufacturers last August. In 1970 there were seven French manufacturers of this type of chain—the last of them went out of business in September. A similar situation now exists in Holland and Belgium.

In Britain, anchor chainmakers, led by Mr David Timmings, chairman of the Chain Manufacturers Association, have been concerned about the impact made by cheaply priced imports for some time. But it was not until British firms linked with their counterparts in France that their case was fully heard.

Mr Timmings said he had been agreeably surprised by the speed with which the Commission had acted during the four months since the first protests had been lodged. The initial scrutiny, published in the EEC's official journal, number C303, had shown a considerable difference in price between manufacturing costs in Sweden and Spain and the price at which the products were sold abroad.

One of the reasons the complaint has contributed to the price difference is the basic price paid for steel. In the case of Swedish anchor chain this is around £120 a tonne and for Spanish around £200 per tonne. Other factors are the extent of reclaimable export levy and general government subsidies.

Until about 1976 the expanding market provided by North Sea oil exploration and production shielded British producers from the full effects. However, within the past 10 years the number of United Kingdom producers making this type of chain has shrunk from 12 to four.

British, French and other EEC manufacturers are pressing for an import tariff of at least 30 per cent on supplies from Spain and Sweden.

Industrial nations likely to agree on one thing: outlook for 1980 is bleak
Scaling new heights of economic summity

International economic "summity" is not a magical process. The leaders of the largest industrial nations, who meet each year to debate money, trade, aid and energy, unfortunately have the skills to resolve present-day problems. At the moment there appears to be a dearth of ideas on cooperative initiatives to brighten the economic outlook.

Later this week, government representatives from the largest industrial nations (the United States, West Germany, France, Italy, Japan, Canada and Britain) will meet in Washington to talk informally about economic summity. The British representative at the meeting will be Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary to the Cabinet.

Much of the discussion will concern global economic developments since last summer's summit in Tokyo. Some time of course will be devoted to the next summit, tentatively scheduled for late June in Venice.

This week's meeting is unlikely to be a particularly jolly affair. Bluntly, the 1980 world economic outlook is miserable. Rapidly rising oil prices seem assured, as Opec flexes its muscles, so the prospect for inflation, recession and international monetary stability will become all the bleaker.

The optimists, such as Mr Anthony Solomon, Under Secretary for monetary affairs to the United States Treasury, predict 1 to 2 per cent average real economic growth for the industrial nations next year, and 9 per cent inflation. This is the optimistic forecast.

Balance of payments prospects are also grim. Mr Solomon sees a significant deterioration in the payments balances of oil-importing countries from estimated 1979 deficits of more than \$60,000m (about £2,730m).

Some officials suggest that the Tokyo meeting was a success, and that more can be done to build upon its results. At a meeting, government leaders, most notably President Carter, agreed upon oil import limits, and that initiative led to

Mr Howell's announcement of the Government's plans for an expanded programme of nuclear power stations originally expected last week, is based on a commitment to an increased nuclear capacity. The choice of reactor type is still uncertain.

The two contenders are the British-developed advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR) and the American-designed pressurized water reactor (PWR). The programme which the Government will propose is likely to be based on a mixture of both types—provided safety requirements can be satisfied. The accident at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania last March involved a PWR system.

The arguments over the choice of reactor for Britain's next nuclear programme, indeed the arguments over the future shape of the nuclear industry—have continued over many years. In 1973 the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) was set up to generate electricity in favour of the PWR.

In 1974 Mr Eric Varley, then Secretary of State for Energy, rejected the United States design in favour of the British steam generating heavy water reactor (SGHWR). In 1976 Mr Varley's successor, Mr James Callaghan, cancelled the SGHWR.

In 1978 Mr Benn announced that two AGRs would be built and design and safety work would continue on PWRs. The present Government has given a commitment to a strong nuclear programme, but has not yet sketched in the detail.

According to Department of Energy projections, about 15 new nuclear power stations will be needed by the year 2000 to meet Britain's energy requirements. This would mean a doubling of the nuclear power available between 1977 and 1985 and a further fourfold increase between 1985 and 2000.

Wholesalers back down on discount stores ban
By Derek Harris

With the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) poised to act against manufacturers which refuse to supply goods to discount outlets, there are signs that the manufacturers may be backing down. Both Tesco, one of the three leading multiples, and Argos, the catalogue show-room chain which is part of BAT, have been approached with offers of supplies.

This follows complaints from Tesco and Argos to Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, about companies refusing to supply goods.

Tesco's complaint was against a British manufacturer which refused to supply colour televisions and audio equipment, and Argos sent Mr Borrie a list of more than 30 manufacturers and other suppliers which it claimed had refused to supply goods. Both Tesco and Argos believe the refusals have been because of their price-cutting policies.

A maker of extractor fans named by Argos has now offered the company its full range and Argos is deciding which of the goods to include in its catalogue.

Tesco has had five offers of supplies in the television and consumer electronics field. One is from a multinational, another from the European company and the rest from Japanese companies.

Tesco is optimistic that reasonable terms can be negotiated to provide a range of goods. It already sells goods from six manufacturers in this sector, including two Japanese.

Mr Borrie now has a growing file on manufacturers and suppliers allegedly enforcing minimum pricing structures by their boycott of the discounters. Other multiples have had problems with suppliers.

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Libyan oil price increase throws Opec conference into confusion

From Nicholas Hirst in Caracas

Libya has set a new record official oil price of \$30 a barrel, throwing the pricing of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which begins in Caracas tomorrow, into confusion.

The chances of Opec now achieving its desired aim of bringing order back into world oil markets with a single price structure must now be much slimmer.

Libya's oil minister, Mr Ezzedin Mabrouk, announced on the eve of the Venezuela conference that the move to increase the price by \$4 a barrel, backdated to November 1, was in response to a decision by a Saudi Arabian-led group within Opec last week to raise prices by \$6 a barrel.

Mr Mabrouk criticized the Saudi move as an attempt to dictate Opec decisions. Although it is too early to say that the attempt of the moderates, led by Saudi Arabia, to form a new base for Opec prices, has failed, the makings of another two-tier structure are all too evident.

Three moderate countries—Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar—last week raised their prices by \$6 a barrel, backdated to November 1, in a preemptive move to bring agreement on a single price structure at the Caracas meeting. A fourth, Venezuela, raised its price but did not backdate it.

The most important change was Saudi Arabia's lifting of its \$18 a barrel price to \$24 a barrel, breaking through the official limit of \$23.50 fixed as the top of the two-tier structure agreed by the Opec countries earlier in the year in Geneva.

Libya, Nigeria and Algeria had broken through the Opec limit fixed in Geneva with an increase to \$26.27 a barrel. Libya has now increased this price to \$30, giving 50 cents of the rise to an Opec fund for third world development.

Little of Libya's production of two million barrels a day comes to Britain. Occidental and Conoco are important buyers of its oil delivery to Europe and the United States.

The importance of the rise for Britain is that the North African crude is similar to those in the North Sea. When the three countries increase their prices to \$26.27, the British National Oil Corporation followed suit, creating a storm of protest within the EEC.

If Libya alone goes to \$30, the effects on petrol prices will not be marked. An average increase of 33 per cent, equal to the rise by Saudi Arabia, would put about 10p on a gallon of petrol in Britain.

The danger in the Libyan rise is that the Libyan oil minister has ignored the attempts of the moderates to hold prices down. But the coming recession could make for plentiful supplies of oil next year, and those charging high prices, whether on contract or on the spot market, where Iran has been selling prices of up to \$40 a barrel for its crude sales, could find themselves having to offer discounts.

However, to achieve a unified price structure, based on the Saudi benchmark, it is clear that Saudi Arabia will have to increase its price above the \$24 to nearer \$28 a barrel.

Otherwise a two-tier structure will continue with the uncertainty that may bring, other countries may continue to sell to the highest bidder—the development which worries the Mr David Howell, Britain's Secretary of State for Energy.

Iran, too, seems prepared to push prices higher. Mr Ali Akbar Moinefar, the Iranian oil minister, today indicated that he would at least raise the Iranian official selling price by \$4.50 to \$28 a barrel and backdate to November 1. But the exact increase would not be imposed until the decision of the Opec ministers in Caracas.

Mr Moinefar wanted oil to be priced in line with the cost of the development of alternative energy sources, a figure he put at between \$35 and \$55 a barrel, but was prepared to accept a majority decision because of the importance of maintaining unity within Opec.

Much now depends on Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, due to arrive in Caracas tonight.

Shaikh Yamani may be tempted to try to force the moderates to keep to a structure with the benchmark at \$24 on the basis that countries charging higher prices would be forced back into line by the recession.

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UK companies report sharp fall in orders

By Patricia Tisdall, Management Correspondent

A sharp drop in manufacturing output and order trends has occurred during the past month, according to a survey published by the Confederation of British Industry today.

Figures show that there has been a decline in both domestic and export orders in the month to last Wednesday. The volume of output has also fallen significantly.

Some distortion has occurred in a month-on-month comparison because of a catching-up process after the engineering dispute, combined with the rise in consumer spending because of tax rebates.

However, the underlying trend in the overall demand has weakened compared with the last few months as well as with levels earlier in the year.

The largest companies, those employing more than 5,000 people, and those engaged in the production of intermediate goods, have been hit the hardest.

Another dismal indicator, apart from order and output levels, is that stocks of finished goods are far higher than they were a year ago.

One bright spot is an apparent stabilization of the rate at which prices are expected to increase. Compared with mid-November, there has been no change in the number of manufacturers expecting average prices to go up within the next four months.

The figures show that 67 per cent of manufacturers expect rises in the average prices at which domestic orders are booked during the period while 29 per cent expect to charge the same as at present. Even a limited pause in manufacturers' price increases is likely to be temporary. Costs are bound to rise because

higher oil prices and increases in rail fares, postal charges and rates are in the pipeline. The full impact of borrowing costs also has still to work its way through.

Retail price index figures released on Friday showing inflation levels still rising will bring little cheer. Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has said there is little likelihood of a drop until the middle of next year.

There seems little doubt that inflation will have reached and possibly exceeded 20 per cent by that time.

The CBI study shows a worsening in export as well as domestic sales prospects. A slight recovery shown in November has proved to be strictly temporary.

Export order books were stated by 44 per cent of manufacturers to be "below normal" during the month to mid-December compared with 42 per cent in November and 37 per cent in November last year.

The survey, made monthly by the CBI and taking in the views of 1,949 manufacturers, is an abbreviated report pending publication of a full quarterly trends study next month.

Indications are that the downward slide in industrial prospects, including profitability, shown in October has been accentuated in the last two months.

Twenty-five per cent of manufacturers said they expected the volume of output to decline during the next four months. The figure was 9 per cent a year ago.

Only 22 per cent forecast an increase, compared with 31 per cent at the same time last year.

One of the most worrying trends has been the continuing increase in unit labour costs in Britain relative to those of its main overseas competitors.

The November survey showed a sharp decline in competitiveness compared with a few months earlier and this is expected to have intensified in the past few weeks.

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MANAGEMENT

This week two chartered accountants, Michael Phillips of Price Waterhouse and Richard Findlater of Arthur Young McClelland Moores, respond to criticisms that training for their professional qualification leaves young accountants ill-fitted for a career in general management. Adrienne Gleeson sums up the debate.

A strong argument for unified training

Firm foundation for a career in many spheres

Debate on this page over the past three weeks on the question of whether accountancy in general, and training for a Chartered Accountants' qualification in particular, provide a good background for general management, has produced a certain amount of sound, but little fury.

Essentially, there has been two points to the criticism: first, that accountants are ignorant of some of the disciplines of management; and secondly, that the very strength of training in their own particular discipline means that accountants are frequently unable to see the wood for the trees.

On the first—as Mr Michael Phillips suggests in the accompanying article on this page—there are already moves in the big firms to expand the CA's training beyond that strictly required for obtaining a qualification.

The second criticism is more serious and it hinges on the fact that the financial realities are not necessarily anything more than the symptom of an underlying malaise which might be quite impossible to define in financial terms. Now, accountants within the profession itself recognize that there could be problems in general management outside their own sphere—witness their unease at the idea of being faced with managing a large force of low-skilled labour; but this criticism, though ill-defined, is really directed more to the fact that accountants often do not recognize the nature of the problem than that they do recognize it and acknowledge that it is beyond their ability.

Although this series has concentrated upon the difficulties that arise when chartered accountants make the transition from the profession to industry or commerce, it has to be said that bodies representing chartered accountants who have their training in industry or commerce—the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants and the Institute of Certified Accountants—have registered protest at the effect that their members understand very well indeed the problems that their brethren from the profession do not.

Maybe so; but then the argument, at its root, is the argument of financial and general management, and that, however well they understand the detailed workings of their own companies, accountants trained within industry find it even harder to acquire the strategic skills required of higher management.

There is, obviously, a strong argument for some form of unified training, to bring together both the nuts and bolts of day-to-day experience in financial management, and the breadth of exposure which a training in auditing confers. But such a programme will be very difficult to unify, unless the old idea of uniting the profession can be revived.

Last time that idea was broached, it was thrown out by the members of the English Institute. Because the future of the profession lies in the future of the people that they are training now it is time for them to think again.

Adrienne Gleeson

Articles by Adrienne Gleeson and Michael Phillips in recent weeks have questioned the appropriateness of the training of chartered accountants for a subsequent career in industry. The fact remains that such training continues to play an important role in developing financial and general managers. I have no doubt that the main reason for this is its breadth and flexibility.

The major strength of this training is the wide variety of business, with its wide range of management and control structures, that are examined, analysed and understood in the course of auditing them—quite apart from special investigation work. An effective audit requires a good understanding of a company's business, its likely future and the significance of the decisions its managers are making.

The range of businesses encountered involves the constant need to adapt to the environment of a new client and to form a working relationship with the management and staff there. This combination of the supervision of a chartered accountancy qualification in itself has been guaranteed "success and happiness", but I believe that the present training has as much validity as a grounding in business finance as that given in the past.

Today's employee of a major accounting firm is a very different animal from that of 10 or 20 years ago. Almost certainly he is a graduate; certainly he comes under more pressure earlier. He or she may in consequence now be a more attractive proposition to management recruiters.

Training in large accounting firms may, in the early years at least, be primarily directed towards auditing. But auditing is not a narrow science involving the mechanical application of a set series of principles.

For example, the main features of an audit include a detailed review of the operations of the business, not only

of changing assignment teams and dealing with new clients, but a premium on developing the skills of communication, reinforced often by formal training in communications and public speaking.

So far I have been describing the practical training received by young accountants during a training contract and two to three years after qualifying. This is supported by study for examinations and, in many firms, by extensive formal training programmes. As well as accounting, tax, auditing and law, the accountancy examinations already include economics, statistics and mathematical approaches to decision making and the syllabus is being reviewed by the institute for its continuing relevance.

The auditing firms' own training programmes also range much wider than traditional accounting subjects and are likely to include management, business games, computers, drafting skills and other subjects which should be part of the equipment of any professional manager, financial or otherwise.

Of course, this training is not intended to produce instant managers for industry. What it does provide is a broad and very solid foundation for a career in many spheres. This is why the profession is so successful in attracting good graduates.

Chartered accountants transferring into industry may have problems because in public practice they will have been managing only people like themselves and will have to adjust to managing different manpower structures, created to serve different needs. They must also adjust to the needs of the management team in industry. But accountants who transfer accept the need to adapt and to learn and would argue that their training makes them better able to do so.

Looking at the wider question of training financial managers for industry, I believe that the professional training that I have described could not be bettered as a broad base for a long-term career in industry. I say this with additional confidence because I know how much effort my own firm and many others are putting into developing and broadening their already extensive training programmes.

But as Michael Phillips said, industry needs to consider how it, too, can develop programmes to help chartered accountants make the switch into industry and to start contributing more quickly in their new career.

Training in public practice is not static. It is being developed quickly in ways which should make chartered accountants more useful than ever in industry. Perhaps both sides need to consider what they can do together in the cause of developing better managers.

Michael Phillips



Mr Michael Phillips, the partner responsible for training at Price Waterhouse and Co, an international accounting firm.

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fees is so successful in attracting good graduates. Chartered accountants transferring into industry may have problems because in public practice they will have been managing only people like themselves and will have to adjust to managing different manpower structures, created to serve different needs. They must also adjust to the needs of the management team in industry. But accountants who transfer accept the need to adapt and to learn and would argue that their training makes them better able to do so.

Looking at the wider question of training financial managers for industry, I believe that the professional training that I have described could not be bettered as a broad base for a long-term career in industry. I say this with additional confidence because I know how much effort my own firm and many others are putting into developing and broadening their already extensive training programmes.

But as Michael Phillips said, industry needs to consider how it, too, can develop programmes to help chartered accountants make the switch into industry and to start contributing more quickly in their new career.

Decline in Britain's industrial ranking

From Mr Stephen Schattman
Sir, Margaret Allen's review of the new issue of the *Times* 1000 (December 6) is accompanied by a table headed Europe's top 20 industrial groups. It contains well known continental names like Renault, Siemens, Philips, Fiat and Volkswagen. But where are ICI, GEC, BP, GKN? No doubt, all those to whom it has been revealed that Britain's problems are the direct consequence of EEC membership will feel strengthened in their belief.

Yet almost more worrying than the decline that has taken place is the unwillingness of many of our politicians of all colours and others, who certainly ought to know better, to face up to reality. To state the facts involves one in the risk of being accused of "talking the country down". If reality contradicts my assumptions, too bad for reality, seems to be a doctrine claiming "heavy adherents these days".

I have a little more space for a simple table illustrating the importance of leading industrial companies in the United Kingdom and other Community countries. It is based on data of the world's 50 largest companies, published in the August issue of *Fortune* magazine. "Industrial" companies are those one might

term the sinews of a country's productive potential. They include basic, heavy mechanical, electrical, chemical, etc. industries, but exclude consumer goods, foods, manufacture and all.

It is indeed a depressing picture, as far as the United Kingdom is concerned. It is all the more so when one considers that the United Kingdom's performance in growth, productivity and profitability having been "catastrophic" since the early 1950s.

STEPHEN SCHATTMAN,
65C Wigmore Road,
London W8 7LJ.
December 8.

Role of accountants in management

From Mrs J. E. Bell
Sir, I have followed the discussion in the *Times* of accountants in management with, at first, keen interest, but later, as the correspondence developed, with total bafflement. Where have you contributors been living all this time and, in particular, which traumatic experience so affected Mr J. F. Ellis (December 13) as to persuade him that "accountants would never be able to tell me where the greatest rewards lay for the least effort?"

Research, every professional has to invest fairly members and we must be charitable and conclude that Mr Ellis has been unfortunate, but this is an unjustification for such wholesale indictment in the name of realism.

Old myths, like old habits, die hard and perhaps your contributors are not aware of the directions in which the accounting profession has been developing in recent years. The educational and training policies of all the senior accountancy bodies have been subjected to searching self-scrutiny and now bear little resemblance to the patterns of ten to twenty years ago.

The supportive functions which some of your contributors have assigned to profes-

sional accountants are now being undertaken by accounting technicians. The professional accountant is preoccupied with the practice of accounting, financial management, interpretation and evaluation of financial and accounting information, the provision of advice on the optimum use of resources (not just money) and the implications for the future of present capital investment decisions.

These matters occupy a significant proportion of the educational courses and training programmes followed by students preparing for membership of the major accountancy bodies. May I suggest that those who question the capacity of accountants to make a contribution to the managerial function should inform themselves on these points before indulging in further aspersions?

As far as my own Institute, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, is concerned, I am sure they would be most happy to assist any of your contributors to a better understanding of the role of our members in the management of public sector organisations.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. BELL,
58 Priory Crescent,
London SE19.

From Miss Elizabeth Bendle
Sir, The Chancellor refers constantly to the strict monetary policy that the present Government is pursuing. During its period in office the rate of growth of sterling M3 and the money supply has been 19.2 per cent. We can only be thankful that the Chancellor is not contemplating a "tax monetary policy".

The truth of the matter is that this Government has misunderstood the nature of the problem of implementing control of the money supply. Controlling the money supply and the rate of inflation are medium-term policies which call for medium-term policy tools such as the monetary base, the lifting of exchange controls and the freeing of interest rates. The Government has, however, attempted to implement medium-term policies using tools previously used for extremely short-run demand policies: namely interest rates and the currency.

The former is uncertain in effect and tends to accentuate gilt market crises; the latter has always been evaded with

Rank	Company	Turnover (£m)	Employees
1	ICI	8,700	151,000
2	BP	12,700	229,000
3	Renault	10,800	199,000
4	Siemens	7,900	124,000
5	Volkswagen	13,900	252,000
6	Fiat	12,500	247,000
7	General Motors	12,000	230,000
8	Hoechst	11,500	180,000
9	Elf	10,700	145,000
10	Thyssen	9,100	130,000
11	Netherlands	15,100	288,000

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Tools of monetary policy

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Windmills

From Mr Donald Campbell
Sir, I cannot understand the reluctance of Englishmen to revive the windmill. Its income is tax-free, its only mention in the *Income Tax Act* is in 1935 (not within 50 yards of the public road), and it is one of the few devices that makes you money while you sit and lounge at home. Surely the machine for the welfare state?

Yours faithfully,
DONALD CAMPBELL,
No 5,
31 St Martins Lane,
London, WC2.

Mostly the property of the Forestry Commission. The Forest is also a popular tourist area, with several hundred thousand visitors a year. And it is a major E.C. country park, mostly people working in Gloucestershire between the Severn and the Forest. The Forest is also a popular tourist area, with several hundred thousand visitors a year. And it is a major E.C. country park, mostly people working in Gloucestershire between the Severn and the Forest.

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Insurance cover on a house

From Mr C. M. Humphreys
Sir, I live in a seventeenth century, numbered and thatched cottage. It might fetch £70,000 in today's market. But if it were totally destroyed and I decide to rebuild an exact replica fairly heavy, it would cost over £140,000. That is, it could find the necessary materials and skills (fairly unlikely).

So what should I insure for? The British Insurance Association clearly making the office answer: "You should insure the sum insured on the full rebuilding cost of your home to ensure that you are covered for the right amount, neither too little nor too much."

What the leaflet does not explain is that a policy of insurance is a contract of indemnity; that you cannot recover more than your loss, as far as the insurer is concerned. It is all the more so when one considers that the United Kingdom's performance in growth, productivity and profitability having been "catastrophic" since the early 1950s.

That means that, if I follow the B.I.A. instructions and insure for £140,000, I shall be paying a premium calculated on double the amount which I could have to recover under the policy. Means that my policy money may buy me another comfortable house, but I can find one; it will not enable me to rebuild what I have where I am. This may surprise many people. All it may be everyone's idea of fair play.

There could be words so that you can choose to build, even if the cost exceeds market value, and still recover that cost up to the sum insured. But that is not what the policy is for. The policy should not be the insurer's spell out in the clearest possible language, exactly what the effect of their policies is to be. Yours sincerely,
C. M. HUMPHREYS,
Cape House,
62 New Street,
London EC2M 1JY.
December 11.

Low yield of capital taxes

From Mr Peter Mills
Sir, I hesitate to disagree with Lord Cockfield and Sir Stanley on the subject of taxation, but there appears to be a discrepancy between figures in Oliver Stanley's article (December 12), for the yield of capital taxes and the Revenue's Financial Statistics and Budget Report 1979-80.

Oliver Stanley has quoted Lord Cockfield as stating that capital taxes yield £2,000m in total, and goes on to give figures for capital taxes of £400m and capital gains tax of £400m and £600m, respectively. According to the *Income Tax and Corporation Tax* 1978-79, £1,168m of which the main items were stamp duty £433m, capital gains tax £333m, and the Inland Revenue is looking for an increase of about 10 per cent in the total from CGT and CTT during 1979-80 with the total rising to £1,450m.

Oliver Stanley recognises that the scope for raising CGT and CTT is limited by the fact that their yields are already low when the costs of administration and collection of these taxes are considered. Some feel that the only way out from these taxes are those in the Revenue and the professions whom CTT and CGT keep in employment. Given the tiny yield of the collection costs, it is not possible to argue that the non-wealth holders have benefited from this attempt at redistribution.

Although I am not a policy maker, I am sure that the likely to be right in concluding that abolition of one or both taxes is not in prospect; I feel to see the justification in their continued existence.

Yours faithfully,
PETER MILLS,
47 Roderick Road,
London, NW3.
December 12.

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COMPANY NOTICES
GUTHRIE & COMPANY LIMITED
The directors of Guthrie & Company Limited, a company registered in England, number 12345678, have decided to wind up the company and to dissolve it. The company's last day of business was 31st December 1979. The company's registered office is at 123, High Street, London EC1A 1AA.

LEGAL NOTICES
In the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division, the following notice is given: The estate of the late John Smith, deceased, is being administered by the executors, Messrs J. & J. Smith, of 123, High Street, London EC1A 1AA. Any claims against the estate must be presented to the executors by 31st January 1980.

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LEGAL NOTICES

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older is projected to increase from 20 million to 35 million, and the number of people 75 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10 million to 17 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997).

Drop in be
1980 despi

ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began, Dec 10. Dealings End, Dec 27. \S Contango Day, Dec 28. Settlement Day, Jan 7.

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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

DEPARTMENT OF
 Electrical, Electronic
 Control Engineering
 (Grade V)
 PROFESSOR
 Head Grade

DEPARTMENT OF
 Management
 Head Grade

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN
 Trinity College
 CHAIR OF HISTORY

